

# The Oban Times

## & WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

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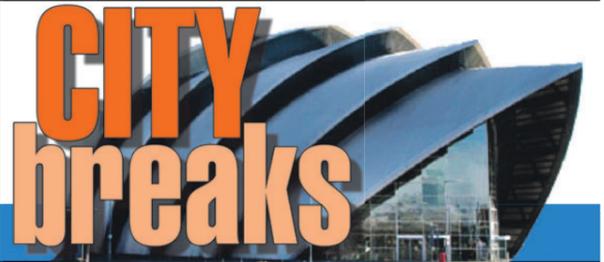
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### Christmas Party Guide

Don't forget to turn your clocks back this weekend



Also inside this week: My village, Spean Bridge **WIN** Red Hot Chilli Pipers CDs **WIN** A weekend mini break in Mull

### Labour party rolls into town for annual conference

THE SCOTTISH Labour Party conference will get underway in Oban tomorrow (Friday) with the national party's new leader Ed Miliband making a speech in the Corran Halls.

Mr Miliband will speak to an audience of delegates from throughout Scotland, including Scottish leader Iain Gray. During Mr Miliband's visit he will meet local community councillor Kenneth MacIntyre.

Mr MacIntyre said: 'I am pleased to welcome him to Scotland where he gets a good majority of his votes.'

'Next year, I hope Labour will be back in the Scottish parliament and we are looking for a Labour MSP in Argyll.'

### Oban man charged with Connel Post Office robbery

A MAN accused of assault and robbery at Connel Post Office appeared in private on petition at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

Brendan McGuckin, aged 27, of 47a Combie Street, Oban, made no plea or declaration and was granted bail. The case was continued for further examination.

### Woman jailed for series of offences

AN OBAN woman has been jailed for 331 days at Oban Sheriff Court.

Karen MacGillivray, aged 49, of 24a Shuna Terrace, pled guilty to five of the six complaints - all breaches of the peace or probation - and was found guilty of a breach of a peace charge.

All occurred while she was under the influence of alcohol.



A myriad of colourful costumes was on display at Oban's premier Hallowe'en event, the Monsters' Ball, held in the Corran Halls last Saturday. Among the 555 revellers, from left, were: Laura MacDonald, Laura Firth, Katie Reynolds and Fiona Mary Hunter Wood. See page six for a report and more pictures. 07\_144ball118

## Death knell sounds for 26 schools

### 'Consider all alternatives to closure' demands minister

REPORT by LOUISE LEE lee@obantimes.co.uk

Reduction of the number of buildings allows more money to be spent on others. Two schools on Mull are being considered for closure forcing some children to travel 28 miles a day over roads considered sub-standard. Mull councillor Mary-Jean Devon said: 'We will be fighting these closures all the way.'

'I would ask whether the geography of these routes has been considered as we are asking wee tots to travel in what may be horrendous conditions in the winter.'

Alan Reid, MP for Argyll and Bute, is horrified but not surprised at the extensive list of prospective closures. He said: 'This is grim news for parents and children.'

'I will be asking the leader of the council for an urgent meeting to ask why all these closures are necessary.'

Education secretary Mike Russell, prospective SNP candidate for Argyll and Bute constituency, said: 'Over the years I have been strongly involved in defending rural schools, wherever possible and practical. I know how important they are but, of course, I also know how difficult the public expenditure situation is.'

'It is for the council to decide how it delivers education in Argyll and Bute. Parents have a clear right to be consulted as part of a full and transparent process and the right to appeal to ministers if that process is not carried out.'

'We have also made sure that educational issues are fully taken into account. I want local authorities to consider all alternatives to closure that might come from communities themselves.'

The full list of schools considered for amalgamation is: Achahois into Ardishaig; Luss into Hermitage Primary; Keills into Port Charlotte; St Kieran's into Castlehill; Southend into Drumlembie; Ardchnonn into Dalnally/Kilmartin; Isle of Luing into Easdale; Rosneath and Kilecregan into Garelochhead; Parklands into Hermitage Academy/John Logie Baird; Toward into Innellan; Glassary and Minard into Lochgilphead; Ardchattan, Achaleven and Barcaldine into Lochmell; North Bute into Rothsay; Lochdonhead into Salen; Ulva into Dervaig; Stone into Sandbank; Kilmoran into Strachur/Tighnabruich; Skippness, Strunshorne and Glenbar into Clachan; Kilchrean into Taynult; and Ashfield into Tayvallich.

What do you think of the council's plans? Email us: editor@obantimes.co.uk or post a comment at www.facebook.com/obantimes

### Three held in drug raids as police appeal for help

POLICE raids on properties in the centre of Oban last Friday resulted in the arrest of a man, accused of intent to supply illegal drugs.

The man was one of three held on the same day. However, Oban police say more could be done if more information on drug dealers was forthcoming.

On Friday morning, a team of 20 police officers carried out the raids in the Combie Street and Stevenson Street areas and arrested a 30-year-old man, who lived at one of the properties.

In another incident later that day, police stopped a 33-year-old and a 29-year-old in Station Square, both of whom have been reported on two charges each of possession. The 29-year-old

man has also been charged with intent to supply.

Detective Constable Andy MacDougall, of Oban CID, said that despite successful drugs detections recently, more could be done if members of the public came forward with information on a more regular basis.

'We are not getting as much information as we would like and it appears that there is some complacency about drugs amongst the public.'

'We would like to hear from people and we can be contacted in the strictest confidence,' he said.

Oban Police chief inspector Glen Bland added: 'I want people to come and speak to my officers. If we get the information, we can act upon it.'

### Ward merger plan for Lorn and Islands

WARDS may be merged at Lorn and Islands Hospital in Oban.

Cruachan Ward and Ward C will reduce bed numbers from January, with a full merger by May. One of the existing wards will be used to house a 30-bed unit, including a six-bed unit for haematology and chemotherapy patients. The location of the new ward has not been decided.

David Whiteoak, Oban, Lorn and Islands Locality Manager, said merging wards would ensure the long-term sustainable future of the hospital. 'The hospital faces the same challenges as every other hospital in the country. We felt it was important that the task force from our hospital works as

a representative team to make the decision for our hospital.'

After a close examination of activity levels and bed utilisation by consultants, senior charge nurses, representatives of staff and management, it concluded it may be possible to merge these two wards without any reduction in the quality and treatment of patients in the hospital,' he said.

Mr Whiteoak confirmed that approximately 10 full-time equivalent staff would be left without a job in the new ward. 'Staff will not be made redundant. Terms and conditions will be protected for staff members for as long as required and these staff will be treated preferentially in securing a new post.'

### Motorcyclist rides his luck after A83 accident

OFF DUTY emergency service personnel instantly came to the aid of a motorcyclist who had crashed on the A83 near Arrochar.

The motorcyclist crashed at about 4pm on Sunday and was initially attended to by his fellow rider, a retained fireman. Next on scene was Oban Police sergeant Mike Wood, who was on his way back from Glasgow.

Mike said: 'I was off duty but I always carry a reflective jacket in the car. I put it on and went up to see what was happening and I found this motorcyclist

sprawled out on the road. Then another man came over, who introduced himself as a policeman, then a paramedic and three doctors - all off duty. There was even a troop of Scouts who came over with some oxygen.'

'You usually get help from motorists at road crashes but to get that level of expertise within about five minutes was very unusual.'

The motorcyclist was taken to Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley with minor injuries but was discharged the following day.

### Lack of cash casts doubt over Skykon's future

KINTYRE'S £35 million spent widening roads to, and deepening, the harbour to ship the massive towers. The new factory extension, which will see the workforce rise from just over 100 to 300, is due to open in December.

Skykon took over the Machrihanish factory making the towers for wind turbines in March 2009 in a blaze of glory and a visit from First Minister Alex Salmond. Skykon injected £26 million into the deal; the Scottish investment was just under £10 million.

For more see this week's *The Campbeltown Courier*.

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**Student Colin completes high seas adventure**

A LOCHGILPHEAD student has returned from the adventure of a lifetime after steering an arctic research vessel from Greenland to Oban.

Colin Souness and two fellow glaciology students, Sam Doyle and Matthew Burdekin, from Aberystwyth University, braved 20-metre high waves and force eight gales on board the *Gambo*.

The trio's achievement was all the more impressive considering Sam and Matthew had never sailed aboard *Gambo* before.

The 30-tonne steel ketch is used to study carbon glaciers in the north pole and how they respond to climate change, but had to be brought back to the UK.

It took 17 days for the students to bring the boat to Oban from Greenland and the journey was not short of incidents.

'We lost our jib one day in bad weather,' said Colin, whose father, James, still lives in Kilmartin. 'That really slowed our progress. When it came loose it got trapped in the engine and was dragging behind us.'

'We had to get the scuba gear on and cut it free in 1,000 metres of water on

the edge of the Mid Atlantic Ridge.'

Sam added: 'We took it in turns to sleep because someone had to be on watch at all times but even when you got to sleep you were wet all the time and you felt the boat rocking and heard it creaking. There would be times when the boat was almost submerged and other times we were surfing down a wave. At times I was really scared.'

But for every low point on the journey, there was a moment to savour: dolphins riding the waves at the bow, disturbing glorious, fluorescent plankton and sightings of sperm whales.

Colin, who is a Royal National Lifeboat Institution crewman in Aberystwyth, said: 'We just aimed for Oban which, considering the distance we had to cover, was a tiny speck on the map.'

'As we came in past the Hebrides and turned into the Sound of Mull smoke started to come from the engine. But there was no way I wasn't going to bring her into Oban.'

*Gambo* will feature in the BBC's forthcoming 'Frozen Planet' series.



Sailing success - Lochgilphead's Colin Souness on board the *Gambo*.

**Start in sight for Coll's new £2.5 million centre**

CONSTRUCTION of Coll's £2.5million community centre is a step closer after the community company behind it prepares to put the project out to tender.

With the final piece of the puzzle - a £939,000 grant from the European Rural Development Fund - now in place, Development Coll is able to start making its ambitious plan a reality.

Tenders for An Cridhe will be invited next month with construction due to start by the end of January 2011.

John Fraser, chairman of Development Coll, said he was excited by the progress.

REPORT by STEVEN FLANAGAN  
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He said: 'We're getting there. I am nervous in that we are six to eight weeks away from getting started by awarding the tender.'

'There's no turning back now. We're hoping to have spades in the ground by late January. It's getting exciting.'

John said that while the community has raised £75,000, the majority of the cash required for the construction has come from grant funding.

Complicating matters is that about 45 per cent of the total grant funding approved for the project will be paid in arrears, forcing the company to take out a six figure loan to provide cash flow.

The two-year loan will cost about £13,000 per year to service. As it is not an eligible project cost, it will be paid for through fundraising in the community.

Emma Grant, Development Coll's project manager and development officer, said: 'It's something that's being taken up with the Scottish Government. It just creates an added cost and creates a difficulty for any project.'

'In the past, councils have bankrolled it but they don't do that any more.'

'It is an issue that even Mull and Iona Community Trust have come up against too.'

Fundraising won't start until construction begins, but Emma isn't worried about being able to raise the sum.

She said: 'We've already managed around £75,000 in four years - that's more per year than the loan will cost.'

Emma said construction would take approximately 12 to 18 months, with the opening ceremony planned for summer 2012.

**Islanders divided on the best way forward for ferry services**

AN UPGRADE of both Lismore ferries or moving the vehicular ferry to the north end of the island are the options Liosachs have given consultants for their new crossing service.

The island, which has a population of less than 200, is currently served by two ferries which both operate at a loss - a passenger ferry from Point to Port Appin and a vehicular ferry from Achnacroisich to Oban.

However, a Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance (STAG) report

produced by MVA Consultancy shows the most popular option for the ferry service is a north end vehicular service to Port Appin, with bus links to Oban. The perceived preference among islanders would be to retain the Lismore to Oban run as a passenger service. The second most popular suggestion is to keep the status quo but upgrade both vessels.

The vehicular ferry, The MV *Isle of Eigg*, is owned by Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) and

is 35 years old. The passenger ferry to Appin, the MV *Lismore*, is 21 years old. The STAG report states both ferries are 'approaching end of life'.

The report also states both ferry routes currently run at a significant financial loss.

Lismore Community Council secretary Mandie Currie said the STAG report produced the feedback the community had expected.

She said: 'The islanders are split on what the best option is but I think

the option that would keep the most people happy would be a vehicular ferry at Point, with a passenger ferry to Oban. We really need two ferries as a lot of islanders don't drive.'

The final decision will be incorporated into the Scottish Ferries Review which is expected to be published next year.

Mandie added: 'The STAG report will please half of the island and not the other half but we are all just waiting patiently for the outcome of the Scottish Ferries Review.'

**Crofter's complaint prompts training pledge**

AN ORGANISATION that accredits renewable energy devices is to embark on a retraining programme after a Coll crofter complained about the lack of information available from its staff.

Colin Kennedy contacted the Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) after hearing that, without approval from the body, the turbine he wanted on his land would not qualify for the lucrative Feed In Tariffs (FITs) incentive scheme. But he came away from the conversation with more questions than answers and was unable to discover how long testing would take.

When contacted by *The Oban Times*, a spokeswoman said the MCS's only role was to facilitate the database; it did not know what the criteria for accreditation was.

But the organisation's senior analyst, Laura Fosh, said the issue was caused by a new member of staff and steps are being taken to prevent a repeat.

While Ms Fosh confirmed that the duration of testing cannot be judged

in advance, she said the body is fully aware of the criteria each turbine - or any other renewable energy source - has to meet.

This information is available on their website, but is soon to be made more accessible.

The role of MCS, in conjunction with FITs, is to protect the domestic consumer from products that could fall short of acceptable standards.

'Incentives for turbines that did not come up to standard would be very damaging for the cause and the industry as a whole,' she said.

While pleased MCS staff are to be trained on dealing with questions from the public, Colin feels his question still hasn't been answered.

He said: 'Great, but that doesn't answer my question. How long will it take to get the turbines certified? Will they be certified in good enough time to take advantage of the FITs?'

Colin said he will now contact Jim Mather MSP, the minister for enterprise, energy and tourism, to take up the issue.

**Archaeologist stumbles across 'important piece of history'**

A COLL man recently stumbled across a piece of *Oban Times* history when searching his bookshelves at home.

Jim Hill, who has lived on the island for 14 years, found an extraordinary booklet *Inveraray Papers* published by *The Oban Times* in 1939.

The booklet, a special edition, features a selection of articles previously published by the company.

The articles, collated by a Duncan C MacTavish, cover a range of historical topics such as the 1685 rebellion, the admiralty courts, penal statutes and piracy.

The booklet also features three articles on the infamous Appin murder of Colin Campbell, recalling the fierce rivalry between the Stewart and Campbell clans in Argyll in 1752. A further newspaper article, called *Inveraray Burning*, has also been taped to the inside of the booklet, together with a postcard of Inveraray old town and castle.

On the card it states 'old Inveraray and castle, about 1700, after



The post card found inside the *Inveraray Papers* booklet.

drawing by Captain of Loudoun's Foot Regiment CS 446,' but there is no reference to the publisher or photographer. Jim, an archaeologist, researcher and keen historian, said: 'My friend found the booklet in the Oxfam store in Oban and thought I would like it. I put it on the bookshelf and came across it recently when I was re-arranging some books.'

He added: 'As an archaeologist this sort of thing is right up my street and it's certainly an important piece of Argyll history.'

*The Oban Times* editorial director Stewart MacKenzie said the newspaper had published various booklets and leaflets on a number of subjects throughout its 149 year history.

**Beachd Ailein**  
Ailean Caimbeul

LEAG AILEAN MACIAIN BUILE làidir air an Rìaghaltais nuair a chrònaich e Buill a bha ri bualadh bhas is a' dèanamh toileachais a gearraidhean ann an sochairean agus seirbheisean na dùthcha. Cha b' è cùis togail spioraid a bha an seo ach comharradh air staid èiginnich eaconamaidh na dùthcha, agus chan eil dearbhadh sam bith gum bheil an innleachd leasachaidh aig an Rìaghaltais dol a dh' obrachadh.

Cha tig as a' phoit ach an toit a bhios innte, agus chan eil e gu diofar de na "geallaidhean pòsaidh" a thug na Tòraidhean agus na Lib Deamaich ann a bhith cruthachadh an Rìaghaltais, tha feallsanachd nan Tòraidhean air seirbheisean poblach gun atharrachadh. Tha beachdan oillteil eile ann cuideachd, leithid mar a bha Rùnaire an Fhoghlaim ann am Westminster, am Ball Pàrlamaid Tòraidheach Michael Gove, a fhuair cuid de fhoghlam ann an Colaiste Raibeart Ghòrdan, ag iarraidh eachdraidh Bhreatainn a theagais ann an sgoiltean Shasainn seach fios mu na dùthchannan fa-leth a tha san Rìoghachd Aonaichte. Tha facal ann gun dèan aonachd neart, ach chan eil dad an sin a tha ag ràdh gum feum cùl a chur ri dearbh-aithne chultarail, neo eachdraidheil, gus toirt air an aonadh obrachadh.

Bha e iongantach a bhith a' faicinn nan Tòraidhean a' toirt an taighe mun claigeann fhèin le bhith a' nochdadh fios mu ghearraidhean shochairan teaghlach. An robh iad idir a' smaoineachadh nach cuireadh seo fearg air luchd-taice Tòraidh? Seo Mìreastar a tha a' cur as an corp mu na daoine sin "nach eil bochd" ma tha iad a' cosnadh còrr air ceathrad mìle not, agus gu follaiseach gun tuigse aca air mar a tha teaghlach fo uallach fhiachan dachaigh a ruith. Sin an dragh a tha mi air a thogail roimhe. Ciamar a tha cuideigin le milleanan na sporan dol a thuisinn dè a th' ann mìle sa bhliadhna a chall? Chan eil cothrom aca air an aineolas 'dòcha, ach tha dleastanas orra ionnsachadh mar a tha mòr-shluagh na dùthcha a' feuchainn ri tighinn beò.

Tha mìltean an cunnart cosnadh a chall ma thèid na ghearraidhean aig an t-Seansalair tromhe, ach tha an Rìaghaltais a cur an dòchas às an roinn phrìobhaidh agus leasachadh san eaconamaidh. Ach càite bheil na cothroman agus an t-ionnhas a leigeas le sin tachair? Theagamh gur e an t-adhbhar dragha as mise buileach a bhith a' cluinntinn beachd eòlaiche poilitigeach gur e feallsanachd gearraidh, seach innleachd leasachaidh, a tha a' stiùireadh an Rìaghaltais seo.

'BUDGET, not strategy-led cuts - if this view of the government approach to the forthcoming economies is correct then we have much to worry about!

Irrespective of coalition agreements, established political ideology remains unchanged and public services are instinctive targets for Tories and many people fear cuts disguised as essential savings.

Many will also rightly worry about millionaire views of what it might mean to the average person to lose a thousand pounds a year. Wealthy ministers have a duty to learn how the average person exists!

Ailean Caimbeul (Allan Campbell)  
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**Drivers beware of deer on the move**

MOTORISTS are being warned to be on the lookout for deer as the nights draw in.

The message from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) comes as more and more deer can be seen by Argyll's verges having been hit by vehicles.

As the nights get longer and the clocks turn back, red deer are moving down from the hills at the same time as many commuters head home.

SNH say motorists are twice as likely to collide with a deer in Scotland as they are in England, with more than 10,000 deer-related motor vehicle accidents recorded in the country every year, causing on average about 70 serious human injuries.

The economic value of these accidents is £5million.

While many people believe most accidents with deer occur on the remote Highland roads, the reality is that 70 per cent occur on trunk roads or motorways. Warnings will be echoed

on electronic signs at the side of trunk roads at key locations throughout the country, including the A85, A82 and A87, together with the A835 and the A9.

Jamie Hammond, SNH deer management officer, said: 'The risk of accidents is particularly high at this time of year.'

'I'd strongly urge motorists to slow down and keep a careful watch for deer crossing roads.'

'If you slow down or stop for one deer, be aware that more deer may follow the first so keep your speed down and be alert,' he warned. 'If you do hit a deer, report it to the police as the deer may be fatally injured and suffering.'

SNH advise that drivers use full-beam lights when there is no oncoming traffic, as it will help illuminate the eyes of deer on or near the roadway, giving more time to react. Once spotted, the headlights should be dimmed so as not to startle the animal.

**No guarantee on council tax freeze**

A FREEZE on council tax is not a certainty for Argyll and Bute residents, the local authority has said.

The statement comes after the Scottish Government announced plans to freeze council tax for the next two years.

Nicola Sturgeon, deputy leader of the Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP) told delegates at the SNP conference her party would find funding for a freeze in 2011/12 and again in 2012/13, if returned to power.

However a spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council said: 'A decision on council tax levels in Argyll and Bute for 2011/12 will be made at the budget meeting in February.'

'The future will very much depend on the Government support we receive and its intentions regarding paying for future service provision.'

The council is currently maintaining a council tax freeze as part of an earlier commitment with the Scottish Government.

**Warning to louts who litter roads**

LITTER louts are in the firing line after Argyll and Bute Council launched a clampdown on people flinging rubbish out of car windows.

The council says anyone seen throwing litter from their vehicle in Argyll and Bute 'can expect to be handed an instant £50 fine'.

Council officers will be working alongside Strathclyde Police to target roadside litter bugs from today, Thursday, as part of a Keep Scotland Beautiful special campaign day.

'Anything that is thrown on the ground - including cigarette butts, food packaging and drinks cans - is considered as litter and attracts the hefty fine,' said a spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council.

'Anyone in Argyll and Bute witnessed dropping any form of litter will be issued with a fixed penalty notice.'

**Lotto cash for Mull allotment scheme**

THE INTRODUCTION of allotments to Tobermory could bring a vacant piece of land back to life.

A Big Lottery Fund grant of £9,534 will pay for a feasibility study for the scheme.

Island-based councillor Mary-Jean Devon said: 'Yet again the people of the islands have shown their resourcefulness in building a sustainable future for the islands.'

Jim Mather, Argyll and Bute MSP, added: 'Money has been granted to carry out a feasibility study into setting up a market garden or community allotments. This is an ambitious project which will involve the whole community. By learning from other established market gardens and lottery projects this will be a sustainable venture.'

**Council job losses will be last resort**

APPLICATIONS from Argyll and Bute Council staff for voluntary redundancy will only be considered when all other cost cutting measures have been exhausted.

The authority employs 5,219 people in full and part-time posts and council leaders have indicated they may need to cut jobs to make savings.

A council spokeswoman said: 'In terms of the total reduction, the numbers will be informed by other efficiencies we can make.'

'We are still within the period for staff to express an interest in applying for voluntary redundancy.'

'While we need to make savings, we also need to make sure we have the right staff in place to deliver our services.'

**Man faces indecent images charge**

A FIFTY-year-old man has appeared at Oban Sheriff Court charged with possessing indecent images of children.

Neil Macfarlane, c/o Oban Police Station, made no plea or declaration when he appeared before Sheriff Douglas Small on Monday and was released on bail.



Skipper of the *Karrera*, Donald Strang, shows Digital UK's Paul Hughes how he has prepared for digital in Oban Bay. 15\_144digital1

**Viewers struggle to tune in for digital**

A LAST minute dash for help signalled the final stage of the digital switchover in the Torosay transmitter area.

Everyone with digital equipment was required to retune to continue receiving a digital television signal on Wednesday, while those with an old analogue set had to upgrade, either to a new set or one with a digi-box.

But retuning for the first stage of the switchover proved more difficult than many had anticipated and help lines were flooded with calls from people needing assistance.

At Oban's branch of Scottish Hydro Electric (SHE) staff were bracing themselves for another influx of calls when the analogue signal was switched off.

Shop manager Carol MacLarty said: 'The phone never stopped ringing after the first stage. I don't know how many

times we've talked people through how to update their TV.

'When the whole thing goes this week we'll probably get the same thing again.'

Ahead of the two-stage switchover, Digital UK said about one in five in the region were not ready for the switchover. While there was a brief flurry of activity for people needing new equipment, staff at SHE were not anticipating a huge rush this time around.

Carol said: 'We sold a lot of digi-boxes for the first stage and sold all we had on one day. We've ordered more in for this week, but in the main people have been fairly organised.'

Meanwhile the regional head of Digital UK Paul Hughes joined local skipper Donald Strang to see how his boat, the *Karrera*, has adapted for

the digital switchover. Owned by his father Alan, Donald runs the boat with brothers, twins Alan Junior and James, between Oban and Oban Marina on *Karrera*.

They say television is essential for the quiet times. An omni-directional aerial and digital ready TV has enabled them to keep watching, while the digital switchover has actually improved their signal.

Donald said: 'We need the TV because sometimes we have to wait about 40 minutes at the marina between trips.'

'We've noticed a better signal with the switchover. We're not picking up some channels yet, but we will this week. It's great having a bigger choice.'

Mr Hughes added: 'It's amazing how different people use television in different ways.'

**Giant turbine plan goes to public hearing**

CONTROVERSIAL plans to erect the biggest wind turbines in Europe in an Argyll beauty spot have been recommended for refusal.

Almost 250 people voiced their opposition to RWE Npower Renewable Ltd's plans to erect 15 turbines, with a 45 megawatt capacity, at Raera Forest, Kilninver.

At 125 metres from base to tip, they would be visible up to 25 miles away, in sight of Jura, Colonsay and the coast of Morvern, as well as Kilmelford, Luig and Seil.

Members of Argyll and Bute Council's planning, protective services and licensing committee were told that because the area was of 'panoramic quality', adjacent to the nesting sites of protected birds of prey and having settlements within 2kms, the turbines should not be built.

A planning report said: 'Environmental considerations are such that they cannot be reasonably offset by the projected benefits which a development of this scale would make to the achievement of climate change commitments.'

The report noted the wind farm falls short of

REPORT by EDEL KENEALY ekenealy@obantimes.co.uk

meeting local and national government regulations for both the forestry and wind farm industries.

A total of 276 representations were made to the local planning authority with 237 against the proposal and 32 in favour. A further seven general comments were made.

At the planning meeting, councillors deemed the case too complex and controversial to make a decision and moved the application to a public hearing.

Planning officer for Kilninver and Kilmelford Community Council Antoinette Mitchell said: 'I share the concerns noted in Argyll and Bute Council's planning report.'

'The height and scale of this development is disproportionate to the landscape - the proposed wind turbines are four times the height of Lismore Lighthouse. These turbines are an industrial fixture in a country landscape.'

Mrs Mitchell added:

'Kilninver Primary School is less than three kilometres from the proposed site and whilst government guidelines suggest a two kilometre exclusion zone, that is for the usual two megawatt wind turbine. The turbines proposed for Raera are three megawatts each so surely the exclusion zone should be a greater distance.'

However a spokeswoman for RWE Npower renewables said: 'RWE Npower Renewables has carried out a full and thorough environmental assessment including detailed species and habitat surveys, landscape assessment and policy appraisals.'

'The results presented in the comprehensive environmental assessment submitted as part of our detailed submission to Argyll and Bute Council demonstrate that the Raera wind farm site is an appropriately located and well designed scheme.'

She added: 'Residents should feel reassured that our proposal for Raera wind farm has been designed taking on board the concerns of the local community and statutory consultees.'

**Tug that helped to save nuclear sub faces axe**

THE EMERGENCY tug boat that pulled the Navy's newest nuclear powered submarine to safety could be axed to cut costs.

The *Anglian Prince* was sent to Skye from Stornoway to pull *HMS Astute* free from the shingle bank it ran aground on last Friday.

Two days before, the government announced that the boat was one of four Coastguard emergency tugs that would be decommissioned in September next year to save £32million.

John Laing, chairman of transport at Highland Council, said the incident demonstrated how important it was to retain the tug that serves the Minch between Stornoway and Barra.

He said: 'How ironic it is that only two days after the government announced the end of funding for emergency tugs in the Highlands and Islands that the Stornoway tug is required to rescue

the Royal Navy's newest and largest attack submarine. We have fought long and hard to have a tug service protect our shores and this incident brings into sharp focus the need for the tug at Stornoway.'

His sentiments echo those of Ross, Skye and Lochaber MP Charles Kennedy and Highlands MSP John Farguhar Munro, who said removing the Western Isles' 'safety net' was a dangerous move. Mr Kennedy said: 'The loss of the Coastguard tug from Stornoway - which, after all, was introduced as a recommendation of the inquiry into the Braer oil spill disaster which hit Shetland in 1993 - would represent a serious blow to maritime and environmental safeguards on the west coast of Scotland.'

Mr Munro added: 'I am furious over the chancellor's decision to cut these tugs as they provide a vital safety

net against maritime accidents in our waters.'

Scottish Government Ministers and local authorities met in Kirkwall on Monday to discuss the potential threat to the *Anglian Princess* and her Shetland-based sister vessel from looming defence cuts.

Speaking after the summit, Highland Council leader Michael Foxley told *The Oban Times*: 'We are taking all necessary actions to ensure the tugs are retained to patrol the waters of Shetland, Orkney and the Minches. Years ago we had a long campaign which proved the need for tugs to be sited in these waters. It is essential these are retained. With hazardous shipping in coastal waters and the impending development of offshore renewables it would be complete madness to remove them. The costs are minimal and will need to be found.'

**Top VisitScotland honour for Isle of Eriska Hotel**

THE ISLE of Eriska Hotel has received the highest accolade awarded by VisitScotland for outstanding service and facilities.

The Five Gold Star Award for country house hotels was awarded to the family-run business after a secret inspection.

Owner Beppo Buchanan-Smith said he was delighted but insisted the business, which employs 50 staff, won't rest on its laurels.

He said: 'The team here work so hard and it's good for someone from outside

our customer base to recognise that. It was judged anonymously but the inspector praised the level of service and the quality of the team working here.'

**Invest**  
'The award also recognises the level of facilities and we do invest heavily in that regard; for example we're building a new sports hall that's due to open in Christmas.'

'Now we wish to further develop our staff and we're about to launch a new training scheme.'

'Each member of staff will receive one day of training per month outside the hotel and that's also to give something back to the community.'

Eriska House became a hotel when it was bought by the Buchanan-Smith family in 1973.

It has grown to become one of the most exclusive tourist destinations in Argyll.

'We don't run it like a hotel. It's a family business and as such we keep trying to make it better for the next generation,' added Beppo.

**Untimely move signals an early start to winter!**



Winter arrived early in Oban town centre, when the clock in Station Square was switched back an hour a week early - to the bemusement and confusion of travellers. A spokeswoman for Argyll and Bute Council explained: 'The clock is fitted with an auto-changer. The unit is programmed to change on the fourth Sunday in October. Unfortunately, there are five Sundays this October, which is why the time has changed early. We apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused! British summer time officially ends at 2am on Sunday when the clocks go back.'

16\_t44clock1

**Firm to support food research**

A DUNSTAFFNAGE firm has signed a deal to provide tiny sea creatures to a major food company.

Aquapharm, based in the Scottish Association for Marine Science, has agreed to send micro-organisms to Leatherhead Food Research, which will then identify uses in the preserving and flavouring of foods.

A spokesman for Aquapharm said: 'The collaboration represents a major step forward in realising the potential of our unique marine assets and expertise in the food and beverage sector.'

**Hotel worker fined for attack**

AN OBAN barman has been fined £200 after pleading guilty to assault at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday.

Botond Szabolcs Nemes, aged 31, admitted assaulting a female and repeatedly slapping her on the face on Sunday evening.

Defence agent Edward Thornton told the court Nemes had been drinking but that he had made no effort to justify his actions.

Nemes, of staff quarters, Oban Bay Hotel, Corran Esplanade, Oban, was also ordered to pay £100 compensation.

**Purses stolen**

TWO WOMEN had their purses stolen from the Church of Scotland Centre on Glencruitten Road last Friday.

**Explosive action on the touchline**



Police officers speak to Kilsyth fans who let off fireworks during their team's match in Oban.

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THERE were fireworks on the football pitch at Glencruitten on Saturday but the explosive action was nothing to do with the players on display.

Police officers were called to the touchline during Oban Saints' match against Kilsyth Amateurs and confiscated fireworks from the visiting fans, who had aimed rockets at the car park and the pitchside. There were no arrests made.

The period when fireworks can be set off on November 5 has been extended to 1am the following morning because of the festival of Diwali falling on this date.

Strathclyde Police said officers would take action against anyone found to be committing any firework related offence.

Oban Police Inspector Julie McLeish said: 'Oban is very fortunate to have an organised fireworks display and I would encourage people to attend this where they can enjoy their night in a safe environment.'

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**Mull Lines**

ISLANDERS and officials are managing to work together to find a way forward for roads use on Mull. A meeting between councillors and road users, due to have stringent weight restrictions placed upon them, is now at the stage of drawing up procedure documents. An Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman said: 'Councillors, roads staff and objectors met to discuss detail of how to allow deliveries of essential goods on roads protected by weight restrictions without causing further deterioration. 'Procedure documents will be drawn up to reflect the agreement and given to the participants to ensure that they are workable for all.'

MULL Youth Theatre has been treading the boards in France.

Island teenagers were taking part in a cultural exchange with La Compagnie d'un Soir and showing off their theatrical talents

Proud dad Colin Govan, who was on the trip, said: 'The young people attended a reception held outdoors at the community hall. There was a warm welcome, drinks and nibbles and the Scots' theatre group provided a block of award-winning Mull cheddar.

'Some locals were surprised that cheese was even made on the island but within half an hour it had all been eaten - with evident enthusiasm.

'The group went on to perform to great acclaim,



**Dexter Govan from Mull Youth Theatre presents Roland Combettes, Mayor of Roullens with a bottle of Tobermory 10-year-old single malt at a civic reception for the troupe in the South of France.**

successfully completing a theatrical exchange with La Compagnie d'un Soir, a young French ensemble that visited Tobermory earlier in the year.'

MULL Eagle Diary: As the red deer rut seems to have peaked and is now calming down, the island is settling into a slightly quieter phase but still with plenty of action from the eagles.

The golden eagles near to Loch Frisa fledged a single chick this year and are still being seen regularly from the eagle hide. The young golden eagle is now strong and confident on the wing but is clearly not quite ready yet to branch out on its own. It still follows one of the adults around closely in the hope of sharing a meal. Eventually in the coming months, just like the young sea eagles, the young goldens will also start to drift away as part of a natural process of development for the young birds.

If you'd like to try to see the eagles from the eagle hide on Mull please call 01680 812 556.

**Argyll road workers fear for jobs ahead of budget cuts**

WITHOUT a Head of Roads and Amenity Services currently in place within Argyll and Bute Council's management team, workers within the council's road department fear they are an easy target for budget cuts. Roads department workers, who did not want to be named, said: 'Nobody in their right mind would want the job as head of roads and transport. It is the tallest order in Scotland and paid the same as every other head of department. 'There is no one to stand up for us. When the cuts come, roads' staff' will be the easiest to make.'

Worst affected are B and C class roads with almost 60 per cent of roads requiring treatment. Argyll and Bute Council is bottom of the list for road repairs - 32nd on a list of 32 of Scottish local authorities. 'The council is currently recruiting again for the Head of Roads and Amenity Services. This is the second time we have advertised the

post,' said an Argyll and Bute Council spokeswoman. 'We will be using a range of media to attract the right candidate, and anticipate appointing to the post in the near future. This is a crucial role for the council, so it is more important to attract the right person than to appoint someone quickly.'

**Pubs caught short**

Two publicans reported over short measures



**Allan McKie, president of the Oban and District Licensed Trade Association, says any short measures are usually a result of haste rather than profiteering.**

MISERLY licensees in Argyll and Bute seem keen to follow the government's lead in making cuts after 11 were found to be pouring short 'shorts.'

Only three of 14 premises inspected during random checks by the council's Trading Standards team were found to be pouring correct measures.

Of those to fall foul of the law, two breaches were so serious that licensees have been reported to the procurator fiscal; one in Bute and Cowal and one in Helensburgh. They now face possible criminal charges and a fine of up to £5,000.

A further two premises received verbal warnings for slight under-measures, while seven received written warnings for significant under measures.

The random checks were carried out as part of the national 'Fair Measure 2010' campaign, carried out by trading standards officers.

Of those premises inspected in the Oban, Lorn and the Isles area, three received written warnings and one received a verbal warning.

Allan McKie is the president of the Oban and District Licensed Trade Association and owner of Oban's Tartan Tavern. A licensee for 30

years, he doesn't think any of his colleagues, on his patch at least, would deliberately short change their customers. He said: 'I don't think for one second that this is as a result of a deliberate action by any licensee in this area, but it is something that's always going to happen as long as you have free-pour bottles.'

'It is not even physically possible to measure every drink with optics - there are

too many bottles.' He said how busy a bar is can be a contributory factor, with accuracy often sacrificed for speed. Allan said: 'The easy answer would be for people to take more time, but that's not always possible.'

On average, 45 per cent of measures fell short across Scotland, and licensees are being warned to measure up - or risk prosecution.

Depute leader of Argyll and Bute Council and

spokesperson for economy, environment and rural affairs, Robert Macintyre, said: 'The results of our tests show that there's still a need for officers to carry out random tests to ensure visitors to our pubs and restaurants receive value for money.'

'No-one likes to feel they've been short-changed and we take our responsibility to make sure our licensed establishments measure up very seriously.'

**Isle of Mull weavers join London fashion elite**

AN ISLAND weaving company has been impressing buyers at an exclusive textiles show in London.

Ardalanish Isle of Mull Weavers joined a select group of Scottish textile companies and designers to take over the Institute of Contemporary Arts on The Mall to present an event entitled Scotland Rediscovered.

Highlighting the heritage and experience of textiles from Scotland, the invitation-only event aimed to highlight the diversity of textiles which Scotland offers to the London market.

Ardalanish Isle of Mull Weavers use the natural black and brown wool of Hebridean sheep to produce couture garments, fashion accessories and soft furnishings.

**A83 road updates go on Twitter**

A NEW Twitter feed has been set up to keep motorists up to date with roadworks on the A83 east of Inveraray.

The trial scheme by Scotland TransServ uses the social networking site to provide live updates on the progress of works at Loch Shira, which started on October 24.

The 'Tweets' will include details on the general progress of the roadworks and any early reopening of the road.

**HIE to boost Argyll broadband**

HIGHLANDS and Island Enterprise are to implement a superfast broadband initiative that will also improve internet access in some parts of Argyll and Bute.

The move comes after HIE's bid for funding was approved by the government.

The news was welcomed by Argyll and Bute MSP, Jim Mather. He said: 'I am very pleased to learn of the successful bid by HIE for funding for a project that I hope will ease broadband access in parts of Argyll and Bute. I have always maintained that rural and island localities have much more than most to gain from fast and efficient IT services.'

**HMS Walney bids final farewell**

CREW members from the HMS Walney have bid farewell to their homeport of Faslane after the Sandown class mine hunter was decommissioned.

HM Naval Base Clyde has been home to the ship since 2006, and its commanding officer, Lieutenant Commander Angus Essenhigh was joined at the decommissioning ceremony by his crew, naval base staff, senior officers and the mayor of the crew's affiliated town Barrow, councillor Rory McClure.

A special decommissioning cake was presented to the ship to mark the occasion and was cut by mine warfare specialist, Clark Middlehurst - the youngest crew member at 20 years old.

**Fireworks warning** THE ROYAL Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) is urging people to spare a thought for safety when arranging bonfire parties and fireworks displays at home.

Jennifer Henderson, RoSPA's home safety officer for Scotland, said: 'Every year, hundreds of people are injured by fireworks on and around bonfire night. If you'll be having a fireworks party at home, remember that good planning is crucial. Don't leave safety considerations until the last minute.'

Philip Le Shirley, RoSPA's product safety adviser said: 'Avoid purchasing fireworks from the back of a van, door-to-door sellers or unregistered premises.'

**Convicted rapist has latest appeal quashed**

A RAPIST jailed in 1996 for an 'evil' attack on an elderly Oban woman has failed in a bid to have his latest conviction quashed.

David McMillan, 33, was recently ordered to serve 18 months behind bars after he tried to lure a 14-year-old girl to his Perth home.

His appeal was on the grounds that he 'erroneously' admitted breaching a sexual offences prevention order which banned him from having any contact with female children who were unsupervised, without reasonable excuse.

While he originally pled guilty to bombarding the girl with phone calls and texts, offering her drink and drugs, in his appeal he said he believed the girl to be 19.

McMillan claimed his legal team did not realise that was a 'reasonable excuse', resulting in an incorrect plea.

McMillan's defence agent told

the High Court: 'From the outset, the appellant has consistently maintained that he honestly, albeit mistakenly, believed the complainer to be 19 years of age.'

But the High Court ruled that the advice McMillan received from his legal team was correct given the circumstances, as he had not made any effort to verify the girl's age.

In delivering the judgement, Lord Osborne said: 'No miscarriage of justice has occurred and that therefore the appellant's appeal against conviction must be refused.'

McMillan was jailed for life by Lord Milligan in 1996 after being found guilty of breaking in to a retired teacher's home in Oban and raping her. The 73-year-old suffered a broken shoulder during the brutal assault. Lord Milligan described the crime as 'appallingly evil.'

The sentence was later reduced to nine years following an appeal.

**Forum chairman points the way forward for local health partnership**

CONTINUED public engagement and joint working - that is the way forward for NHS Highland according to community spokesman Duncan Martin.

Recently appointed chairman of the Community Health Partnership's Public Partnership Forum for Argyll and Bute Mr Martin believes that only through continued dialogue and open and transparent decision-making can Argyll and Bute CHP successfully make the £4 million efficiency savings demanded of it by NHS Highland.

'Public engagement in the redesign of mental health services in Argyll and Bute has been excellent and an approach which has been recognised throughout Scotland,' he said. 'The CHP needs to continue that practice when redesigning medical care within the new financial framework.'

'It is important that members of the public and NHS Staff are listened to and that they own the solutions to the problems we face,' he added.

Asked what area he believed would see the greatest changes in the face of efficiency savings Mr Martin said it would most definitely be hospitals.

'A substantial amount of the CHP's budget is spent in hospitals and so



**Duncan Martin**

savings have to be made there,' he said. 'GPs deliver primary care under pre-existing contracts and so the CHP will have less control over their budgets.'

Whilst money saving decisions will ultimately be made by NHS managers, Mr Martin underlines the key role of the public in securing the future of health services.

'The NHS is something that we, the public, own. It does not belong to managers, clinicians or nurses, it belongs to us all. The NHS has a responsibility towards us but we have a responsibility to look after it.'

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**Dunbeg man cleared**

A MAN accused of threatening violence and breaching the peace was cleared of any wrongdoing at Oban Sheriff Court on Monday. Thomas John Barr, 50, of 12 Camus Road, Dunbeg, was accused of conducting himself in a disorderly manner on April 23 this year at Lorne Road and making threats towards a man's father. However, a witness told the court that Barr did not make threats and said that the whole incident was as a result of Barr being drunk.

**Kilmelford hall land development**

AN AREA around Kilmelford and Kilniver Village Hall could officially be designated as an area of potential development. Nick Tilley, a local landowner and developer, has notified the local community council that he plans to submit a potential development application to Argyll and Bute Council later this year. Mr Tilly submitted a similar application in November 2009. However, as planning regulations state that applicants may re-submit an application one year from the original application date, Mr Tilly has notified Kilmelford and Kilniver Community Council that he intends to do so.

**Rare whisky comes under the hammer**

TWO RARE bottles of whisky from Argyll distilleries which have long since ceased production are the star attractions in a whisky auction to be held in Edinburgh in early November. Bonhams auctioneers will offer a Glamis 10 year old malt distilled and bottled at The Glenfyne Distillery, Ardrishaig. Glenfyne closed in 1937 after more than 100 years of production. It is estimated that the bottle will sell for between £8,000 and 10,000. Also on offer is a bottle of MacKie's Ancient Scotch from the Malt Mill Distillery, Isle of Islay and blended and bottled by White Horse Distillers Ltd. Malt Mill was founded in 1908 by Sir Peter Mackie. It was always a small scale operation and in 1962 was merged with the island's Lagavulin distillery. The value of this bottle is estimated at between £3,500 and 4,000.

**Algal toxin threat subsiding**

ALGAL toxins that forced the closure of a number of local waterways to shellfish harvesting in recent months look to finally be subsiding. West Loch Tarbert is now the only area in Argyll and Bute closed to harvesting because of the naturally occurring algae, which makes shellfish such as cockles, mussels or razor fish dangerous to eat. Commercial shellfish harvesters in the affected area have been contacted by the council, and steps have been taken to postpone harvesting until algae levels subside. For further information, please contact the council's environmental health team on 01631 567920.

**MSP questions**

**Calman Commission** ARGYLL and Bute MSP Jim Mather has backed calls to keep regulation of Scottish charities under Scottish control. The Calman Commission proposed that the responsibility should return to Westminster but Mr Mather said that would be a mistake. He said: 'The valuable work done by many dedicated voluntary staff across Scotland should not be jeopardised by ill-considered Calman Commission proposals. Responsibility for Scottish charitable regulation must remain in Scottish hands.'

**Management plan looks to Loch Etive for power source**  
Small scale turbines could provide realistic solution

LOCH Etive should be looked at as a potential development spot for small scale tidal energy sources, a new land management plan has recommended. The draft Loch Etive Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan, which went out for public consultation on Friday, outlines ways to develop it as a tourist attraction and resource for locals during the next five years, as well as protect the environment. Prepared by Argyll and Bute Council in consultation with a wide spectrum of stakeholders, the draft plan makes recommendations on how to develop areas such as commercial fishing, recreational activities, commercial shipping, aquaculture, and coastal and marine infrastructure. It also looks at forestry, agriculture and marine science. While the plan all but rules out the development of commercial-scale tidal devices due to their impact on wildlife and loch users, small scale turbines, it says, could provide a realistic solution. Looking at the Falls of Lora, where currents can reach eight knots, it states: 'While the council is generally supportive of marine renewable energy it is considered that the potential constraints and impacts of commercial scale tidal development are likely to outweigh the benefits at this location. 'There may be potential for small scale development that would not adversely affect the environment and social and economic activity. Small scale energy generation could assist in meeting the energy needs for specific developments, e.g. aquaculture or marina facilities.' No small scale tidal devices are currently available, but prototypes are currently being tested, it says. The plan states that

development of the loch for recreation is also important, especially given existing concerns in terms of parking, access, camping and litter. Any improvements to the existing infrastructure will need to be balanced with the potential impact on the environment and local communities. The plan says: 'In a fragile rural economy, the tourism and recreation industry offers the prospect for real growth. 'The coastal area of Loch Etive is an important recreational resource and the potential contribution to the local economy is acknowledged. 'The aim of this policy is to encourage recreational activity and maximise the local social and economic benefits, but at the same time protect residential amenity and our outstanding environment.' The plan is out to public consultation until Friday, November 19. It can be accessed online at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/lochative. Alternatively, you can obtain a copy by contacting the council at Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AR, by telephone on 01631 567972 or by emailing LochEtive@argyll-bute.gov.uk.



John and Ann MacAllister in their McCaig Road home. 07\_144gold01

**Oban couple celebrate 50 years together**

AN OBAN couple, who celebrated 50 years of marriage last week, have told how they celebrated the day they tied the knot - by going out for a fish supper. John and Ann MacAllister, who have been together since they were teenagers, celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary last Wednesday but still recall their modest wedding at Glasgow's Mathers Street registry office with great happiness. 'We didn't have a lot of money at the time,' explained Ann, who is originally from Glasgow. 'So we got married in a registry office and went straight to the fish and chip shop to celebrate. We could just about afford rings but we couldn't go on honeymoon.' **Blessing** John said: 'I lived in Dunstaffnage village at the time and I remember having to get up at 5am to catch the train at Connel. I arrived in Glasgow at 11am and the wedding started at noon. It was over in minutes.' The newlyweds returned to Oban to receive a blessing from Father Thomas Wynne at St Columba's Cathedral and settled in Dunbeg, where they raised their five children. John worked for David MacBrayne on the ships *MV Lochinvar*, *MV Loch Earn* and *MV Claymore* and drove for Oban Transport, while Ann worked in the old Co-op in George Street. The couple, who now live in Soroba, celebrated their anniversary at the Lochnell Arms in North Connel with their extended family. They have 14 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Asked to reveal the secret to a long marriage, John replied: 'Never go to bed upset with each other. Always make up before you do.'

**Old soldier searches for long lost friend**

A FORMER soldier is on the lookout for an Oban man he served with in Germany about 50 years ago as he aims to regroup his old squadron. Native Yorkshireman Keith (Gus) Collins served in Rheindahlen, Munchengladbach with the 221 Air Formation Signals (Information) Squadron between 1959/61 before taking compassionate leave to be with his pregnant wife. It marked the last time he saw many of the 19 soldiers he served with and, at the age of 73, he's now looking to unite 221 at least one more time. Top of his list is Oban man 'Jock' Chalmers. 'Jock' was one of the more popular members of the squadron and Keith is hoping he'll be able to help get the group back together. Keith, who now lives in Wales, said: 'I remember his generosity more than anything. He was a very loyal friend and you don't find many like him. 'I haven't seen him since 1960 or 61, but I don't know how long he was there after I left. He was going to teach me how to drive - I hope he remembers that!' The 20 army personnel with 221 were billeted in block 22 on a camp with 5,000 RAF. While the conflict between the allied forces and the Nazis might have come to an end some years before, there was many a story to be told from the time, particularly as trouble was brewing that would lead to the construction of the Berlin Wall. Keith said: 'It wasn't dangerous there as such, but there was still tension. 'We used to go to 'Fraus' nights, special nights for the married - and single - German women. They would go out for a dance, but they'd all wear masks, so you would never know who you were dancing with. 'Inevitably nine out of 10 of them would be grannies or gross, so we had a few laughs. 'But there was one with a jukebox, and everything on it was in German except one tune - the soundtrack from the Bridge Over the River Kwai. 'We always used to put it on and the Germans used to get really upset; then fights would break out. 'We'd end up in front of the Commanding Officer, who was more interested in how we got on than punishing us!' Keith said he'd be delighted to hear from 'Jock' or from anyone that knows of his whereabouts. To contact Keith, email keithcollins@yahoo.co.uk or phone 01994 231864.



Left: The 221 Air Formation Signals (Information) Squadron football team, sometime between 1959-1961. Keith thinks his Oban friend, Jock Chalmers, is in the front row on the extreme left.

**Clachan Seil wind measuring mast stirs up a storm**

THE INSTALLATION of a 50 metre-high wind measuring mast was approved by Argyll and Bute councillors, despite local opposition. The proposed anemometer mast south of Beinn Mhor, Clachan Seil, was agreed by the planning committee. A report put before members said that the proposal was consistent with the local development plan. However, the mast met with opposition from members of Seil and Easdale Community Council who voiced concern over the negative impact the mast would have on the setting of scheduled ancient monument, the Duachy Standing Stones, the landscape, tourism, and golden eagles nesting near by. Representations from 64 people were submitted to the planning department but Councillor Rory Colville said he felt people were not objecting to the mast but the possibility of a windfarm. 'We have to differentiate between them,' he said. Head planning officer Angus Gilmore said approval of the anemometer 'would not imply that the site would be suitable for a windfarm development.' The mast was a temporary structure and given its relatively thin profile the impact on the landscape would be 'minimal.' 'The issue of a windfarm is an entirely separate matter which would be dealt with and assessed should a formal application be submitted,' he said.



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The Help Scheme is providing thousands of people with everything they need to switch their TV to digital, including help with re-tuning.

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help scheme

**Lorn Lines**

THERE was a large turnout for Oban Photographic Club's weekly meeting in the Regent Hotel, Oban on Monday, October 18. The speaker was club member, and well-known artist and photographer, Bob McCulloch. Bob, whose subject was 'Composition and Colour,' gave fellow members many tips on how to create lead-in lines for their images and how to use colour for effect. The next meeting, on November 1, is a night when members each bring in about 25 of their images to show the audience.

LORN Garden Club welcomed Jamie Taggart of Linn Botanic Gardens for its second talk in the autumn and winter series. Jamie impressed the good sized gathering of old and new club members with his fascinating insight to the botany of plants that are grown in Linn Botanic Gardens - near Helensburgh. He also described the wide array of beautiful autumn colours available for gardeners on the West Coast. His slides included many he had collected from far flung places including China and Chile. The plants shown were chosen for leaf, flower and seed and opened a discussion of the means of seed saving and propagation so that the avid gardeners present could create an autumn array of colour for themselves. The evening was rounded off with tea and home-made cakes. The next meeting is on Tuesday, November 16, at St Johns Episcopal Cathedral Church Hall Oban, 7.15pm for 7.30 start, when Louise Bustard of Glasgow Botanic Gardens will discuss 'Plants that Kill or Cure'. All are welcome.

EARLIER this month a well attended first lecture on the Lorn Archaeological and Historical Society's new winter programme saw Diarmid Campbell entertain the audience with his in-depth account and knowledge of the genealogy of the Lords of Lorn. Diarmid covered the complex blood lines of MacDougalls, MacDonalds and Campbells with Royal Stewart and Bruce connections. In a vote of thanks, Brigadier John MacFarlane, Taynult expressed a wish to see some such genealogies and theories published in the Society magazine. All society members, friends and other interested parties are reminded of the AGM on Friday, November 12, when Bob McCulloch presents a slide show and when a light buffet is also on the agenda. Everyone is reminded that the meeting will begin at 7pm in the main Glencruitten hall. MSP MARY Scanlon will be speaking at Lorn Lunch Club this Friday, October 29. Ms Scanlon will be speaking on the issues of Health and Mental Health at the Regent Hotel, Oban to members and friends of Argyll and Bute Conservatives. Further information and tickets from Sara Rutherford, secretary on 01631 564230.

CLUBS, organisations and societies are reminded that they can send their news, photographs and results by email to editor@obantimes.co.uk - or by post to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

**Writers enjoy a taste of Islay**

SIX INTERNATIONAL food writers visited Islay to experience first hand the island's world class produce. The guests visited many of the island's distilleries as well as Islay Ales and the Harbour Inn and Restaurant in Bowmore. The writers travelled from all over Europe. Celia Pedros, journalist for Portuguese travel magazine Visao Vida e Viagens, said: 'I could not have imagined the incredible landscapes I have seen on my trip. I was so looking forward to visiting Islay - and to tasting the whisky of course!' Tourism Minister Jim Mather said: 'It makes sense to encourage visitors from across the globe.'

**Charity dinner raises £4,575**

A CATAMARAN day cruise, courtesy of 7 degrees west and an oil painting by renowned artist Jan Nelson were just two of the lots auctioned at Portavadie Marina's first charity dinner. A total of 20 lots went under the hammer on October 16 to make £4,575.50, which will be donated to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI). During his speech, Campbell McFall, one of Portavadie Marina's berth holders and supporter of the event, highlighted the effort the RNLI puts into ensuring safety on the seas.

# Revellers go Ga Ga for ball's tribute star

POPSTAR Lady Ga Ga is famous for her outrageous costumes, so it was fitting that a tribute act to the singer headlined this year's Monsters' Ball in Oban.

The fourth annual ball, held in the Corran Halls, was attended by 555 people - just short of a sell out crowd - last Saturday. The Halloween event had to be brought forward a week this year because of this week's Scottish Labour Party Conference, which will also be in the Corran Halls.

Monsters' Ball organiser Mark Gowdie said: 'I was really happy with how the event ran and there was a great turnout, despite being a week early this year.'

'We had a ticket allocation of 600 and I'm sure we would have sold out if it had been held at the end of the month.'

The ball, which is becoming one of the town's main annual events, offered a variety of entertainment,

REPORT by Euan Paterson epaterson@obantimes.co.uk

as well as best dressed and dance competitions. Taynult band The Waterfalls opened proceedings, before DJ Pace and various others took to the stage.

Oban favourites Chunks played and topping the bill was tribute act Lady Gaga'r, from Coventry, who stunned the audience with her Lady Ga Ga act, belting out hits such as 'Poker Face' and 'Bad Romance'.

Mark said: 'We tried to get a Michael Jackson act this year but he was booked up, however, he recommended Lady Gaga'r and she was excellent.'

Mark thanked everyone who helped to set up the hall and tidy up early on the Sunday morning so that the hall could be set up for the Labour Party conference.

Next year's ball has been booked with the Corran Halls for October 29.



Getting the party started: It's all cheers from these guisers as they arrive at the Corran Halls. 07\_t44ball01



The Mad Hatter Michael McCuish and Lenka Hrabalkova as Alice in Wonderland. 07\_t44ball15



Donald Strang as Batman and vampire Hazel MacLean. 07\_t44ball04



Morph suits were a popular choice of costume at this year's ball. 07\_t44ball05



Right: Mark Lockhart as Edward Scissorhands with Allan 'Mr Motivator' Beaton. 07\_t44ball09

## Time running out to become 'Face of 2011'



SEND YOUR ENTRIES IN NOW IF YOU THINK YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES TO BE RUTHERFORDS face of 2011?

Along with your Photo Shoot the lucky winner will also receive £100 in hair services from Rutherford's, Minx Nails and a make-over using Jane Iredale products to the value of £100 and win £100 worth of Wella and Label M products.

Send your head and shoulders photograph along with the participants age, size and contact details.

Rutherford's Hair & Beauty Tel: 01631 565411

ONLY a few days remain for budding local models to enter a competition to find the new Face of Rutherford's 2011.

The Oban hair and beauty salon, at 49 Stevenson Street, has been on the look-out for glamorous girls or guys who believe they've got the look to take the modelling world by storm.

The lucky winner of the competition - for which entries must be in by Sunday - will not only front the advertising campaign for Rutherford's next year, but will receive a makeover, take part in a professional photo-shoot and have their picture published in hair and beauty magazines.

The winner could even find themselves gaining a professional modelling contract with a prominent Scottish agency.

Open to both men and women aged between 16 and 27, entrants must submit a head and shoulders photograph, with their name, age, height, measurements/dress size and contact details.

Pamela Mackay, the owner of Rutherford's, said: 'This is an excellent opportunity for someone to take their first steps in the modelling world.'

'Not only will the winner get a complete makeover by the hair and beauty team here, but they will be styled in the latest fashion for Rutherford's 2011 advertising campaign. If you think you've got the kind of looks that could stop traffic, we want to hear from you.'

To enter, contact Rutherford's on 01631 565411 or call in to the salon.

## Make sure your party doesn't go flat

VOLUNTARY groups, clubs and licensed premises are being urged not to risk spoiling their plans for Christmas events by failing to apply for an occasional licence in time.

Argyll and Bute Licensing Board is reminding potential applicants that at least 28 days' notice for processing applications for occasional licences is required.

The notice period was

extended from 14 days to 28 days when the new Licensing Act came into effect on September 1 last year.

Licensing Board chairman, Councillor Daniel Kelly, said the change had caused problems in the run up to the festive period last year.

'After the new regulations came into force, there were occasions when an individual or organisation

applied for a licence for an event which was due to take place less than 28 days later,' he explained.

'While we will always do our best to ensure that events can go ahead as the organisers have planned, we obviously don't want to disappoint people by being unable to process their application within the required timescale,' he added.



THERE is no mistaking it - just as autumn leaves start to fall, tinsel and cards appear on store shelves. The Christmas countdown is under way. With 57 days left until December 25, The Oban Times is here to help ease you into that magical time of the year. And as evenings darken and the air turns cold, planning special activities for the whole family is the ideal way to dissolve any winter blues and turn anxiety into excitement.

There's nothing like standing

in the midst of the Christmas lights in Glasgow's George Square to help get you into the atmosphere of the season. The official switch-on takes place on Sunday, November 21.

But that's just the start of the city's Winterfest, with ice skating through to January, carol singing, festive films and a host of other entertainment. Planning a short break in the run up to Christmas is the perfect way to enjoy the build-up and spend quality time with your nearest

and dearest. Taking advantage of special offers and promotions means these times of austerity needn't get in the way of celebrating special occasions - and neither should they, life is too short. A trip to the panto is a favourite part of Christmas for many.

Of course a weekend away at this time of the year has so much to offer: time spent with family and friends; special treats with a meal out, theatre trip or a hotel break; the chance to get a head start on all that Christmas shopping.

So what are you waiting for? Pack up the winter woollies, grab the kids and head off - the magic of Christmas awaits you.

## TICKETS SELLING FAST BOOK NOW!

GERARD KELLY AS MUDDLES    DARIUS CAMPBELL AS THE PRINCE    GAVIN MITCHELL AS THE WICKED QUEEN

STEVEN McNICOLL AS THE HENCHMAN    JULIE MATHESON AS SNOW WHITE

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## TWO CHANCES TO WIN! 1 Weekend mini break at Mull's premier hotel

OBAN Times readers are being offered a special treat by the owners of The Western Isles Hotel in Tobermory.

Richard Nealon and Esplin Chapman are offering a fantastic weekend mini break for two nights, including dinner, bed and breakfast and car-ferry travel.

The Western Isles Hotel is a landmark hotel on the west coast - sitting above the picturesque village of Tobermory.

For the past two years, the hotel has been in the careful ownership of Richard Nealon and Esplin Chapman, who ran a successful hotel in Dollar before moving to Mull. Esplin, who is an experienced award-winning chef, has brought some new and traditional tastes to the bar and restaurant menu using the best locally-sourced ingredients.

Hotel manager Richard has begun a major refurbishment programme, bringing the views and atmosphere of the building back to life.

The hotel overlooks the harbour of Tobermory facing out to Calve Island and the Sound of Mull and for 2010/2011 the owners have launched a dinner, bed and breakfast winter-stay package, which includes car ferry travel from Oban. Prices start at £99 for two nights per person. Upgrades



to rooms with a view and suites are available. To win a weekend for two at the Western Isles Hotel in a sea view room answer the following question:

**How long has the hotel been owned by Richard Nealon and Esplin Chapman?**

Runners-up prizes of a three-course dinner and an afternoon tea are also on offer.

Send your answers to: Western Isles Hotel Competition, Newsdesk, The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB. Closing date for entries: Noon, Thursday November 4.

## 2 Red Hot Chilli Pipers' fantastic new release

THE Oban Times has 10 copies of the new Red Hot Chilli Pipers CD to give away.

The 'Bag Rock' pipe band released its third album - Music for the Kilted Generation - earlier this month and already it is flying off the shelves.

One of the band's newest members, Kyle Warren, is keen to point out that despite being seen as more of a pop pipe band, every one of the pipers has reached the top of their game.

He said: 'We take our music very seriously. We have all been trained to Grade 1 standard and have played at the highest level in Scotland.'

'It is a great band to be with as we are playing some amazing gigs all over the world.'

Kyle has certainly needed his passport since joining the band as he has been to Germany, across the USA, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, most of Europe and India.

Kyle is a member of 12 times world champion Grade 1 outfit Strathclyde Police Pipe Band and was also Pipe Major of the National Youth Pipe Band of Scotland.

He is currently studying for a



degree in piping at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, as well as modelling in his spare time.

'Music For The Kilted Generation' fuses contemporary anthems with traditional pipe tunes.

To win a copy of the CD simply tell us:

**Which world champion Grade 1 band is Kyle Warren a member of?**

Send your answer to: Chilli Pipers Competition, Newsdesk, The Oban Times, Crannog Lane, Oban, PA34 4HB. Closing date for entries: Noon, Thursday November 4.

## COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

**ALIENERGY**  
Argyll, Lomond & the Islands Energy Agency

### WAKE UP TO WOOD FUEL

How Mull's woodlands can heat your property  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2010  
Isle of Mull Hotel, Craignure, 7.30pm

Come along if you:  
•Are replacing your heating system  
•Want to know more about wood fuel boilers, the costs and types of systems  
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For more information contact ALL Energy: 01631 565 183

CANCER RESEARCH UK

Oban Local Committee  
**PINK CEILIDH DANCE**  
Breast Cancer Awareness Week  
Friday 29th October  
7.30 pm in Royal Hotel, Oban  
Featuring: Michael Garvin Band, members of Oban High School Pipe Band and lots more  
Tickets £10 / Children £5  
From Royal Hotel, House & Home and at the door  
Visitors Welcome!

**CHARITY CAR BOOT SALE**  
CO-OP CAR PARK  
SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER  
10 AM - 2 PM  
£5 PER TABLE

**HOLLY TEA**  
Glencruitan Parish Church Hall  
Saturday 6th November at 2.00 pm  
in aid of Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre Oban  
Donation at door  
Tea / Coffee - Hot Mince Pies - Shortbread Also Home Baking Stall, Prize Numbers Find Santa Game, Children's Surprise Dip, and Lots more  
Please give us your support today

Friends of Oban Hospice  
**SOUP LUNCH**  
Ford Spence Court  
12.30 - 2pm  
Sunday 31 October 2010

Oban Accordion and Fiddle Club  
**Monthly Club Night**  
Thursday 4th November  
Argyllshire Gathering Hall  
7.30pm  
Audience and Players Welcome  
Special Guest Artist  
Andy Kain Trio  
Admission £3  
Come Along and Enjoy the Music

Benderloch & North Connell Drama Club  
Present Pantomime  
**JACK & THE BEANSTALK**  
9th/10th/11th Dec @ 7.30pm  
Matinee 11th Dec @ 2.30pm  
Corran Halls, Oban  
Book Now on 01631 567333

your essential guide to live music in argyll

### gig guide

Every Sunday > Quiz Night  
Markie Dans

Every Thursday > Ceilidh Night  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House free entry

Friday 29 October > Mini Monsters Ball  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House

Friday 29 October > Halloween Party  
Markie Dans with Crooked Reel

Saturday 30 October > Halloween Party  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House

Friday 5 November > Jo and Colin's Leaving Party  
Markie Dans with DJ Steve

Saturday 6 November > Tim O'Connor  
Markie Dans

Friday 12 November > Relentless  
Skipinnish Ceilidh House

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**Local Producers Markets**  
Thursday 4 November  
Kintaline Farm, Benderloch  
1 mile along the Tralee road  
10am to 2pm  
Lots to eat, buy and do  
Every first / third Thursday  
Interested Producers contact  
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Local Origins Rural Network  
market@lori.org.uk  
www.lorcommunity.ning.com

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**YOUR STARS WITH PATRICK ARUNDEL**

**ARIES Mar 21st - Apr 20th** 090 6612 4520  
You're going to need to take on some challenges in the next couple of months, and some of these may be more physical ones. But this can be good for you, because your ruler Mars is going to supercharge your energy and give you a lot of drive to expand your horizons. You may even be drawn to a more daring kind of love life. Expect a twist of fate too this week. Call now for your love scope in full...

**TAURUS Apr 21st - May 21st** 090 6612 4521  
There is an atmosphere of co-operation - especially when Mercury and Uranus link and this is perfect to meet new friends or to expand interests. You may pair up with one pal and do an activity or hobby together. If you have some spare money to invest, your thoughts can turn to putting it into a property, perhaps co-owning with someone else and renting it out. Call your prediction line for more news...

**GEMINI May 22nd - Jun 21st** 090 6612 4522  
Your ingenuity is enhanced, and if you can think of new ways of approaching an old thorny problem, then do. This could be linked to your health, work or organization of your home life. You will be more inclined to engage with people, perhaps even learning to work better with a rival. To capitalize on this, continue to be self-disciplined and focused on the fine detail. Call for more astral advice...

**CANCER Jun 22nd - Jul 23rd** 090 6612 4523  
Is there part of you that has a tendency to want to save other people from themselves? If so, try to put this on hold. The person involved may benefit from going through some ups and downs. Why? It'll teach them that their actions have an outcome. If you step in, they may not see this. Looking for a seasonal job? You can be very proactive in hunting one down. Call for more news and advice...

**LEO Jul 24th - Aug 23rd** 090 6612 4524  
The Quarter Moon in your zodiac sign this week could make you much more sensitive than usual. Anticipate if you can find life just a bit more emotional and don't judge yourself if you feel raw at any point. Fortunately, the go-getting energies of Mars are going to give you much more confidence in the weeks ahead. If you feel secure, a raunchier vibe can surface! Call for your love scope...

**VIRGO Aug 24th - Sep 23rd** 090 6612 4525  
Expect much greater interaction with the people immediately around you. There may be a family communique, perhaps about arrangements to meet up for a reunion or for Christmas. But you can also find yourself wanting to get a few frustrations off your chest with someone in this group. You can feel that some very personal matters need venting. Call your prediction line for more astral advice...

**LIBRA Sep 24th - Oct 23rd** 090 6612 4526  
You can feel a lot chattier, and this can see you reaching out to others more - whereas recently the more sensual side of your nature has seen you delight in earthy pleasures. This is not at an end, but your mind needs lots of stimuli too. There is a strong chance that you'll host a gathering or party. Not only can you lavish fab goodies on folk, you'll be great fun too. Call for your in-depth forecast...

**SCORPIO Oct 24th - Nov 22nd** 090 6612 4527  
If you have been investing energy in new starts your ruler Mars demands that you now see some results. However, these may not be instant, but if you do have any breakthroughs you are likely to want to celebrate them with fine food and wine, and perhaps also an amorous encounter - maybe both together! You can also show a greater feistiness around cash matters. Call for your financial scope...

**SAGITTARIUS Nov 23rd - Dec 21st** 090 6612 4528  
It can be the less obvious things that happen this week which give you the greatest amount of pleasure. Walking with the wind blowing in your face, trampling leaves or snuggling up with a roaring log fire, can do wonders for your sense of self. But, there is an awakening set to unfold, and a more meditative strand will make way for a funky more up-beat phase of the year. Call now for more...

**CAPRICORN Dec 22nd - Jan 20th** 090 6612 4529  
A big transformation is unfolding in your personal sphere. Express yourself and your talents and if you currently feel unfulfilled, this would be an excellent time to change this. There can also be a shift of outlook in what you need in terms of close involvements. One tie can get deeper and deeper. Or if you're single, you can be surer of the type of partner you'd like. Call for your love scope in full...

**AQUARIUS Jan 21st - Feb 19th** 090 6612 4530  
You have a quirky side, and this week you can feel much less inhibited about showing it. This can see you wow someone with your dynamism and unique take on life or see you score a success with a punt or venture linked to technology or the public. Yet because you can be idealistic, not everyone you encounter will share your values, do prepare yourself for this. Call now for your in-depth forecast...

**PISCES Feb 20th - Mar 20th** 090 6612 4531  
You may not see yourself as being a powerful person, nor one who likes to dominate other people. But Pisces is one of the most complex of all the zodiac signs, and you are not always as gentle as people believe. In fact, your ego is going to be very healthily enhanced over the next couple of months. But will it get so bloated it ends up getting out of control? Call now for more advice...

SP: Pronto Ltd, PO Box 52785 EC1P 1TY  
Calls cost 60p per minute from standard landline  
For entertainment purposes only

**We've got your Christmas Party all wrapped up!**

If you haven't already started thinking about your Christmas night out then it's about time you did. Over the next few weeks The Oban Times will bring you the best party nights Argyll has to offer. Spaces will fill up fast so book early to avoid disappointment.

**The Queens Hotel**

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AT THE QUEENS  
LIVE Music, Dancing & Superb Food  
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Email: thequeensshotoban@hotmail.co.uk  
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**THE BRANDER LODGE HOTEL AND BISTRO**

**Christmas Parties**  
on Fridays and Saturdays throughout December  
3 Course Buffet Feast - £27.50 per person

Dinner, Dance, Bed and Breakfast package is £60.00 per person on a Double/Twin room basis. All our accommodation is en-suite.  
You can also pamper yourself by Booking into our in-house massage and beauty therapy salon or treat one of your friends as a festive gift!

We are also catering for Christmas Weekend and Hogmanay Weekend. Please call us or check out our website for more information.

Bridge of Awe Tainuilt Argyll & Bute PA35 1HT  
t: 01866 822243 f: 01866 822243 e: info@branderlodge.com  
www.branderlodge.com

**THE WIDE MOUTHED FROG**

Sunday lunches are available from this weekend, served between 12noon and 2.30pm.

The Wide Mouthed Frog is one of the best award winning restaurants on the West Coast and offers an excellent meeting place in a truly spectacular and beautiful location.

Light or traditional breakfast, and morning coffees, lunches and dinner are served in our intimate restaurant, bistro, courtyard or decking areas, with stunning views of Dunstaffnage Bay and Castle with the Isle of Mull as a backdrop.

Come along and meet our Friendly and warm team not so far from Oban Town.

Dunstaffnage Marina, Dunbeg, By Oban. Tel: 01631 567005

**THE QUEENS HOTEL** Oban is a beautiful old building believed to have been built as the home of the first Episcopalian Bishop of Argyll and the Islands. Having been totally transformed during the past three years, the hotel now benefits from luxurious accommodation and the warm and homely atmosphere only found under family ownership.

The Glen Campa Restaurant's reputation for fine cuisine is soaring. All dishes are carefully cooked and beautifully presented by our team of experienced chefs, who use only the best of locally sourced ingredients.

The team at The Queens Hotel are now excited and delighted to be hosting their first Festive Party Nights with an outstanding line-up of unbeatable food, top class cabaret, disco and dancing. Special accommodation deals available for all party-goers.

**UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP**, the Keat Family have refurbished the Brander Lodge, now a welcoming venue, to celebrate at Christmas or to bring in the New Year. Festivities and weekend breaks promise a memorable time and our home away from home service is second to none. Dance, sing Karaoke or just relax in the lounge around the fire the choice is yours.

Sheila, Emma, David and Grant plus our family of staff the Murray family of Loch Awe Chef Tam, Maryanne, Kelly and Ewan also Rachel McMillan & Isobel Gilchrist are all on hand with the Keats to woo and wow you.

Brander Lodge Hotel & Bistro open all day, everyday, all year, welcomes non residents and residents alike with warm hospitality.

**THE WIDE MOUTHED FROG RESTAURANT & BAR** is located at Dunstaffnage Marina. Under the new ownership of Chris and Cathryn who have recently moved from Swansea taking with them over 37 years hotel experience. 'We offer a friendly family atmosphere and produce mouth watering home made dishes at affordable prices'.

Sunday lunches are available from this weekend, served between 12noon and 2.30pm.

The perfect place to relax, enjoy good food and great company. We offer the perfect venue for any night out; accommodation, great food and bar.

Contact 01631 567005 for further information on our party nights. Open seven days

ISLAY

**Your correspondent is Susan Campbell: 01496 850215**

**Befriend Islay Book Festival**

AT SEPTEMBER'S Islay Book Festival, audiences were asked to support the charity by becoming Islay Book Festival Friends.

During the festival weekend 23 people signed up to become friends as an indication of their interest and support.

Joining is free and Friends of the Islay Book Festival will receive updates of book festival events and activities. Your support will help to continue bringing authors to the readers, young and old, on Islay and Jura.

Upcoming events this November include 'An evening with Anne Lorne Gillies' and a Spanish evening with Scottish farmer turned author and orange grower on Majorca Peter Kerr.

To become an Islay Book Festival Friend contact Ann Pilley, committee member, for details at ann@capilley.greenisp.org.

**Mesolithic Islay**

IN AUGUST this year, archaeologist Professor Steven Mithen returned to Islay with a team from the University of Reading to explore two new Mesolithic sites found on Dunlossit Estate.

These sites had been discovered by Donald James McPhee who had noticed flint artefacts eroding from the side of a ditch and from where pigs had been rooting.

Susan Campbell had identified the tools as Mesolithic and drew them to Steven's attention. With the kind permission of Dunlossit Estate, a test excavation was undertaken at each site during August and September.

Both sites proved to be of considerable academic importance as outstanding collections of stone artefacts were found, along with plant remains such as hazelnut shells and fragments of bones from animals, which had been hunted.

Indeed, these are two of the best preserved Mesolithic sites ever found in the Hebrides and have



**Fort William sea cadets in the swim at Rosyth**

Seven Fort William sea cadets took part in a major swimming competition at HMS Caledonia at Rosyth. The Lochaber cadets managed to win 10 medals whilst competing against hundreds of cadets from all over Scotland and northern England. Team manager Candy McFarlane, of Strontian, said: 'They showed fantastic commitment during the training period and put in a tremendous effort on the day.'

tremendous potential for future excavation which will hopefully resume in August 2011.

As Steven found during his previous work on Islay, there was fantastic interest, advice and help from Islay people. A series of talks and publications about the new work is being planned.

**Canoe Club winter meetings**

WINTER sessions for the canoe club will take a different format this year.

The pool sessions started last Friday and will continue each Friday until November 22, then restart after the New Year.

Meetings are held from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, and everyone is welcome, including people who have never paddled before. The canoe club annual general meeting will take place on November 19, after that day's pool session, and will be held at 7 Hillside, Bowmore.

**Free uplifts of household electrical goods**

HOUSEHOLDERS in Islay and Jura have recently been given an updated recycling

and refuse collection calendar, noting dates available between November and March for free electrical goods recycling uplifts on Islay and Jura.

To make use of this service, please contact the Islay Service Point about a week prior to the relevant advertised date to book an uplift.

For further details, contact Islay Service Point on 01496 301301.

SCALPAY

**Your correspondent is D Morrison: 01859 540217**

**Yachts**

THE SEASONAL yachting trips have come to an end, unless the odd yacht could call at our shores in the west.

Car traffic is confined to locals driving their cars to and from work. There aren't so many cars on roads on the isles but this wasn't so during the summer with the additional cars of holidaymakers and tourists.

**Houses**

VERY often there are dwelling house up for sale

in the isles, either in the Western Isles or generally. But there are also dwelling houses falling into disrepair.

**Fishing**

CUDDIES are plentiful now in local waters, fished off shore or from a boat at Scalpay.

When cuddie is plentiful it is often followed by other fish and sea birds to entertain themselves on them as food. This is the cuddie season.

Herring is still scarce in home waters. It has been throughout the year until now - October.

Recent windy conditions have been too strong for local fishing boats, so they remained berthed on some days. This is repetitive of other days. In between these times local fishermen do manage to collect as much for them to represent at the fish market. Rough seas by the shores prevent pollock fishing in home waters, at the moment.

KILLIN

**Your correspondent is Judy Forster: 01567 820298**

**McLaren High School dance competition**

THE FORTH Valley Dance Competition took place at the McRobert Centre.

The first night was for S1 to S3 pupils. The S4 team Sparks and Marks gained first place in the small group section against 18 other teams. The winners Sparks and Marks are: Camilla Tigwell, Kirsty Fingland, Anna Tatnell Rachel Speirs and Kirsty Hunter.

**S2 Outdoor Education/Personal Development Programme:** Six S2 pupils completed their six week Outdoor Education/Personal Development Programme in partnership with Active Stirling and Stirling Student Support Service. The group began with team building activities and continued with kayaking on Loch Ard. The following week it was mountain biking at

**Around the Rurals**

**Inverlochty**

YOUNG entrepreneur Tanya Warner was the speaker at Inverlochty WRI's October meeting.

She spoke of her ambition and struggle to set up her own catering and baking business. Self taught and using her mother's recipes she is now the proud owner of a successful establishment in Ben Nevis Industrial Estate, Claggan, called Farmstead Fayre supplying and selling cakes and goodies. Well worth a visit.

The competition winners with their favourite necklace were: 1 Catherine Cameron; 2 Mrs Vera Ritchie; 3 Mrs Isabel Ingram.

**Dervaig**

'THEY charmed it with smiles and soap', a quotation from Lewis Carroll's poem 'The Hunting of the Snark'.

Sophie and Stuart Cattanach from the Isle of Mull Soap Company did just that for the Dervaig branch of the Scottish Women's Rural Institute (SWRI) at its September meeting.

They came equipped with a wonderful array of bottles of essential oils, olive oil, palm oil, shea butter and other ingredients plus their 'kitchen' equipment. As well as telling members about setting up their company, the couple demonstrated making soap, lip balm and bath bombs.

Everyone was invited to have a go at moulding the bath bombs - only one member caused a minor 'explosion' of ingredients down her sweater, though a number of the finished products were not quite the perfect spheres that Sophie produced!

Sophie and Stuart are very keen that their venture should be a local industry if they can they get ingredients from the island - for instance honey from Mull bees for the honey and oatmeal soap. They stressed they are still learning their trade - a lot of it from information available on the internet - but their cheerful enthusiasm and commitment to making a success of a small island business was apparent.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening and as well as thanking them for coming, all the members wished Sophie and Stuart every success with their 'made on Mull' range of soaps and other toiletries.

**Salen**

PRESIDENT Margaret Black welcomed members to the October meeting where the speaker was Iain Erskine who gave a talk on wildlife photography.

He began by showing members his high powered cameras and explained how he uses them in different situations.

He then showed photographs of his travels in Africa. They were beautiful photos of some amazing animals and birds, some familiar and others some members hadn't seen before.

The competition for iced biscuits with handmade crystallised flowers was won by Betsy Ingram.

**Tobermory**

ON THE first Tuesday of October, Tobermory Institute met in the warmth and comfort of Glen Iosal Common Room for a members' night.

Barbara White showed members how she creates daisy-shaped corsages from felt. She worked on a sponge and used a sharp needle to felt different colours of wool and shape the petals then felted the petals together, producing a pretty corsage.

The expressions of admiration and amazement as she felted the wool by stabbing the needle extremely quickly through it and into the sponge told clearly how much we enjoyed the demonstration.

Next, Heather Smart talked about orchids. Heather is a member of the Scottish Orchid

Society and had brought some exquisitely beautiful plants from her own collection of more than 200 plants with her.

She explained the different types of orchid and showed examples and told members how to care for them both in and out of flower. Her main message was: if whatever you do with your orchid works, keep doing it, which gave everyone confidence.

Then Jane Russell showed how to make boxes out of old greetings cards. It takes accurate measurement and quite strong thumbs. Although no glue is needed, the finished boxes are quite sturdy and can be put to various uses.

After tea, the competitions were judged and the raffle drawn, a rather special raffle as it included a corsage and an orchid.

**Lochawe**

MEMBERS of the Lochawe branch of the Scottish Women's Rural Institute met for the first meeting of the 2010/2011 session on Wednesday, October 6, in Lochawe Village Hall.

Demonstrator for the evening was Diane of Corachie Clematis who gave an interesting demonstration on how to prepare and put up a hanging basket. The finished basket was very attractive and members gained many tips on the best compost to use for various plants and fertilisers most suitable for baskets. Diane brought a number of planters already prepared, all of which were very attractive. She also brought plants which could be bought by members wishing to plant their own baskets at home.

Competition: Floral Art, an autumn arrangement as you like it: T Orr, Gold; P McLeod, Silver; A Hay, Red; J Ogden, Red; J Wylie, Red; and M MacKenzie, Blue.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 3, at 7.30pm in Lochawe Village Hall. Visitors welcome.

**Kilmore**

THERE was a good turnout of members at the meeting of Kilmore and District SWRI on October 13.

Everyone was welcomed by president Isabel Smith. After business, the president welcome Kilmore member Margaret Whitton who had brought along a large amount of varied articles made over her years with Kilmore SWRI.

These ranged from dragons to sculptures, toys, teddies and embroidery. Lastly Margaret showed her watercolour and oil paintings and the paper sculpture of three rural ladies on the platform. These won her the cup at Troon. Margaret was warmly thanked by everyone.

Tea and a lovely cake was served by Marie Morrison and helpers.

Competitions: Photo of frost: 1 Valerie Marshall; 2 Sona Campbell. Gingerbread: - 1 Marie Morrison; 2 Hannah Cameron.

**Taynuilt**

PRESIDENT Jessie Servant welcomed 16 members and one visitor to the first meeting of the 2010/2011 session held in Taynuilt Village Hall on October 13.

The demonstrator for the evening needed no introduction - Alice Campbell, a Taynuilt member, had as her subject 'Beadwork for Beginners'.

Alice brought along a lovely display of her work - necklaces, earrings and bracelets.

Members were given a pack of beads to make earrings or bracelets and with Alice's help and patience everyone went home with a nice piece of jewellery.

The vote of thanks was given by Jessie Servant.

Competitions: Three Macaroon Tarts: 1 Jessie Servant; 2 Ann Sutherland; 3 Stella Huntingford. Autumn Foliage Arrangement: 1 Jessie Servant; 2 Doreen Penswick; 3 Jane Gillies.



There was a good turn out for a Help for Heroes fundraising day at Balliemeanoch, Loch Awe.

**Friends raise Help for Heroes cash**

THREE friends who got together to raise cash for heroes were delighted when they collected almost £1,500.

Rena McPherson, Morag McIntyre and Carol Russell raised £1,500 for Help for Heroes by 'shaking the can', selling merchandise and hosting a fundraising

lunch on October 16. Rena said: 'Almost 40 people came along on the day - we were very pleased with the turnout. We wanted to raise some cash because there are various people we know who have either lost someone or have been injured in conflict. We all like to do our bit.'

**Edinburgh Argyll Association**

EDINBURGH Argyll Association recently held its closing summer ceilidh in St John's Episcopal Church Hall, Lothian Road, Edinburgh.

Bean an taigh for the evening was Jasmine Perinpanayagam from Shi Lanka who sang in Gaelic and told stories.

Also on the programme was association piper Andrew MacIntyre who played some fine tunes.

A group called Togrrach sang Gaelic, Scottish and America folk songs. Their leader was Rena Gertz. Hazel Forsyth sang Scottish songs in good voice.

Tea and goodies were served at the interval.

President Hamish Robertson gave votes of thanks to all the committee and helpers who provided the food and to everyone who donated raffle prizes.



The Breakthrough Breast Cancer volunteers at the Big Pink Ladies charity event. 07\_t44pink01

**Big Pink Benderloch charity night raises £1,000**

AN EVENING of music, crafts, beauty therapies and leg waxing has raised more than £1,000 for Breakthrough Breast Cancer.

The charity is being supported this year by Avon and representative Morven McColl-

Murray, from Benderloch, organised the Big Pink Ladies charity evening in the Victory Hall.

Morven said: 'It was very exciting because we had a great turnout and there was a lot of hilarity when the men were getting their legs waxed.'

The band Lush Puppies played a great set and there was solo singers, dancers and a DJ.

With the proceeds from a sponsored walk from Dunbeg to Ganavan added to the final total it is expected that £1,400 will be collected for the charity.

Advertisement for Adrian Flux, featuring a photo of Megan & Grant, contact number 0800 081 8989, and website adrianflux.co.uk. The ad also lists various car models like the Ford Focus, Vauxhall Corsa, and others.

**Woman accused of driving over man in Caol**

A BUS driver and his passengers were thought to be among the witnesses to an incident on Ardgour Road, Caol, on Friday, which allegedly involved a woman driving over a man in her car.

Lochaber police confirmed to *The Oban Times* a 30-year-old man was taken to the Belford Hospital for treatment for injuries to his lower leg following the alleged incident near the Lochy Bar at 1.45pm.

The 36-year-old woman was detained and later released on an undertaking to appear at Fort William Sheriff Court 'in due course', police said.

**Egg tune a hit with Princess Anne**

A BAGPIPE tune written by an Eigg busker has become a favourite of Princess Anne.

Piper Donna MacCulloch wrote 'The Isle of Eigg welcome to the Princess Royal' in preparation for a recent royal visit to the island. The princess heard Donna playing during her visit and asked for a recording.

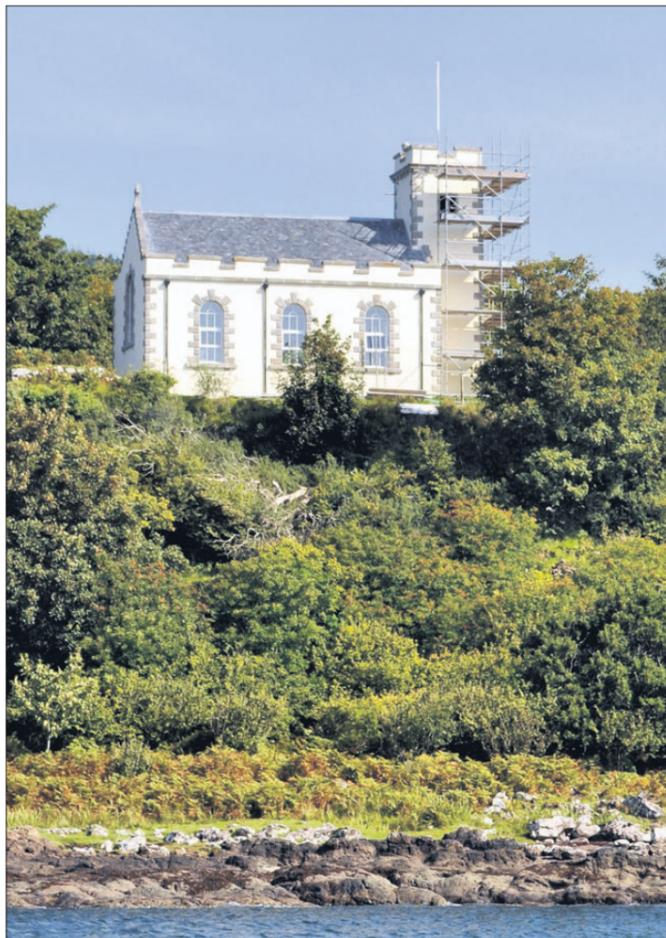
Donna said: 'I piped her in and out of the hall where she was meeting with the community. She came over and said she liked the tune and asked if I could send it to her. I'm really chuffed.'

Donna wrote the tune the night before the visit and she says she's working on perfecting it before sending it to the princess.

**School children learn about wool**

LOCHABER school children will have the chance to learn all about wool at the Rural Education Centre next month.

The youngsters will be taught how to wash, spin, weave and felt wool at the event on November 17.



Restoration: St Columba's Chapel on the Drimnin Estate. Photo by Iain Thornber.

**Drimnin Estate plans unveiled**

A LOCHABER laird has unveiled plans to revitalise his 5,000-acre estate.

Derek Lewis, who acquired Drimnin Estate, in Morvern, in 2002, has already briefed Morvern Community Council on his proposals.

Mr Lewis plans to build two cottages on his land that will be let to local residents, and a number of dry-stone dykes on the estate will be repaired.

Mr Lewis also has several environmental schemes in the pipeline, including woodland regeneration and local production of silage to reduce imports of hay.

The farm on the estate has doubled the number of people it employs after increasing

the size of the fold of Highland cattle and introduced new breeds of sheep.

Many buildings have already been renovated, including Drimnin House where Mr Lewis lives and St Columba's Chapel, which is being fully restored by Angus MacDonald of Spean Bridge. Mr Lewis' daughter Annabel was married in the chapel in September, the first wedding to take place there in 128 years.

Morvern Community Council chairman Iain Thornber told *The Oban Times* local reaction was 'very good'.

'Everybody is very impressed and encouraged by the plans for that area of the parish,' he said.

**Land row rivals in war of words**

RIVAL factions in a costly Lochaber land dispute were involved in a war of words at the end of proceedings in Fort William.

Backers of Caol crofter Donald Cameron complained bitterly that if millionaire Sir Cameron Mackintosh defeats the 87-year-old former paratrooper, all crofters would be at risk of losing land to their lairds.

But Sir Cameron's factor at his Nevis Estate near Mallaig Andrew Aitchison hit back, insisting Sir Cameron was 'no megalomaniac' and had the best interests of Mallaig and Morar at heart.

With feelings running high as the Scottish Land Court hearing broke up, James Kennedy, of Tigh na Feidh, Achintore, Fort William, claimed Sir Cameron was using 'bully boy tactics'.

'This is all about money - he's trying to wear Donald down,' he said. 'If he gets it a development will never

**EXCLUSIVE**  
REPORT by  
STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk



Andrew Aitchison: no 'Trump' scheme.

go there, this is just to get the ground. And if he wins, what happens to all the other crofters from now on? It's going to change the whole law on crofting. It's going to be of massive significance, because if landlords say 'I want this for a woodland scheme', it's a way for them to take part of the crofter's

land. And if they can't get it for woodland they will just put a scheme in for planning permission.'

But Mr Aitchison rejected claims the project was a ruse to gain control of Mr Cameron's holding and would never happen. He said: 'There's no truth in that. We would not have spent 12 years trying to get here had it not been a genuine policy. The area is very dear to Sir Cameron's heart and it is clear how much he wants to stop it becoming dead. He has put money into schools, the hospital, the school hostel, the lifeboat, the Mackintosh Centre, minibuses, swimming pool, Mallaig and Morar Community Centre, the list goes on.'

'We are not talking about a meglomaniac who wants to build a Trump-style development. It is disrespectful to suggest that after all the support

he has shown for Mallaig and the area. I genuinely feel that in this area people might have their differences some people might not like landlords, but I think what we are dealing with here is a genuine benefactor, not a stereotypical landlord who does things for profit.'

The theatre producer wants 50 acres of Mr Cameron's 711-acre croft at South Tarbet on Loch Morarside for a tourism, recreation and woodland regeneration project. Mr Cameron, a veteran of Arnhem, claims he would lose his best land and has lodged his own bid to buy the croft. Highland planners approved the project, despite local objections.

The hearing will resume at the Scottish Land Court at George St, Edinburgh, on Monday.

See estate owner's dream: page 3. Comment on this story at facebook.com/obantimes

**Care home supporters welcome survey findings**

LOCHABER campaigners fighting to save a Fort William council-run care home have welcomed the findings of a survey on its future.

Invernevis Action Group (IAG) says the poll, carried out by SNP MSP for the Highlands and Islands Dave Thompson, shows the 24-bed Invernevis House should remain in public hands.

Mr Thompson sent 8,398 consultation letters to local households last month and by Monday's closing date had received almost 1,800 replies.

According to Mr Thompson, indications

show over 96 per cent of respondents would retain a refurbished Invernevis House as a council-run care home, with less than four per cent in favour of solely private sector provision.

IAG secretary Liz Campbell told *The Oban Times*: 'All the other places like Inverness have got a mixture of provision - and I think we should have one council-run home here.'

'We have had a lot of problems with private care homes closing.'

'People have to have the choice and I think Highland Council should give them that choice.'

'I think the private care home on the horizon, which may never happen, is their excuse to close Invernevis. They are trying to make it look as if it needs so much money spent on it that they can't afford it, but Invernevis does not need a fortune to refurbish it. We won't give up - we are still fighting to keep Invernevis open.'

Mr Thompson said he was 'astounded' at the response and would publish a report 'very shortly'.

Thanking Lochaber residents for responding, Mr Thompson said Invernevis House should remain a council-run centre and

should be refurbished. 'I would hope that when the report is published, Highland Council use the report as a gauge of public opinion and listen to it before making their final decision on the fate of Invernevis House and its staff.'

Housing and social work committee chairman Margaret Davidson told *The Oban Times*: 'We had a first look at full renovation of Invernevis and it was going to cost £1million. We have not accepted that and we have sent it back. I expect we will come back in January, once we have clearer figures, to talk to folks about it.'

**Tantalising menu featuring local produce at Williamson Foodservice Highlands & Islands Food & Drink Awards**

Mouthwatering venison, crab, scallops, pork, fish and vegetables will feature on the menu for the 2010 Williamson Foodservice Highlands & Islands Food & Drink Awards taking place in Inverness, on Friday 29 October.

The Awards dinner will be hosted by BBC Scotland's popular presenter, Catriona Shearer, and guest speaker is Scotland's top chef and television presenter, Nick Naim. Nick Naim opened his first restaurant over 20 years ago and became the youngest chef in the country to be awarded a Michelin star. His interest in food and drink now includes roles as presenter of Landward, BBC Scotland's rural affairs programme, and of other programmes such as Ready Steady Cook and the frenetic Iron Chef UK.

Everyone involved with the food and drink industry throughout the Highlands and Islands is invited to celebrate excellence and achievement in the food and drink industry of the area by joining over 250 guests at this year's Awards

Dinner. Nine Awards will recognise categories including best use of local food and drink, healthier food and drink, good environmental practice, innovation, businesses working in collaboration with each other, as well as new products and new businesses and the popular Taste of the Highlands & Islands Restaurant of the Year Award.

In a year of record entry numbers, over thirty-five companies, individuals and organisations across the Highlands and Islands have been shortlisted for this year's Williamson Foodservice Highlands & Islands Food & Drink Awards. The Awards aim to recognise and encourage high standards and excellence within the food and drink industry and are sponsored by Williamson Foodservice, organised by the Highlands & Islands Food & Drink Forum, and supported by Highlands and Islands Enterprise.



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**Torlundy decoy factory site to be excavated**

**EXCLUSIVE**  
REPORT by RICHARD HARRIS

LOCHABER Archaeological Society is hoping to conduct an excavation of a site near Fort William where a dummy factory was built to attract German bombers during World War II.

The decoy was built at Torlundy to attract bombers away from the British Alcan aluminium plant in Fort William, which the government of the day regarded as a high profile target.

The plan seems to have worked, as the BA smelter remained intact throughout the war and possible bomb craters have been found next to the decoy building.

The archaeological society believes the fake factory was made of corrugated iron covered in camouflage netting and was lit up during the night to look like a functioning industry.

The land the decoy plant was built on now belongs to the Forestry Commission, and the archaeological society is now waiting for their permission to start an excavation of the site.

Society chairman Robert Cairns said: 'Part of the factory was paid for by the Air Ministry who used the aluminium for building aircraft, and the Germans knew that.'

'It had to have a lot of protection as it was a prime target for the Germans to hit.'

**Towed to safety**

TIGHNABRUACH run aground in West Kyles, to safety, on Tuesday.



**New toys cheer Kilchuimen primary pupils**

Pupils at Kilchuimen Primary School have a new box of playground toys to play with, including footballs, frisbees and hula-hoops. The school managed to raise about £100 through a sale held at Christmas and recently used the money to buy the toys. The P1s were among the first to try out the new equipment, watched over by the playground helpers.

**Eye to eye with John Wallace**

**Reading problems ... Taboo or not Taboo**

Every day in practice is different. That's the beauty of working with patients. There is one thing common to every day; watching youngsters developing self confidence and blossoming into young contented adults. This often happens when a teenager starts wearing contact lenses instead of spectacles. Even more exciting is when a child who has been struggling at school collects their new precision tinted spectacles and can suddenly read comfortably and fluently for the first time.

Frequently Mums and Dads are in tears as their child puts their specially tinted spectacles on and can suddenly read for the first time. Even more amazing is the reaction of parents when they bring their child back for a check up. Apart from the sheer joy of seeing their child flourish they frequently mention how they were suddenly they too can read comfortably.

I have written before about one who struggled throughout school because they could not read. I have a close friend who desperately wanted to train as a lawyer but was labelled as an under-performer due to reading problems. She was actively discouraged from realising her dream and ended up in a completely different career and has never been truly happy since. She mentioned this the other day when I was examining her son. Lo and behold, she too suffered from significant reading problems (despite having completed a university level education) which I was able to help with precision tinted lenses. There were tears of joy running down her face as she read comfortably for the first time ever!

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# Estate owner's tourism dream

Impresario wants land to breathe life back into remote area

**EXCLUSIVE REPORT** by STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

THE FACTOR of a West Highland estate has told a court why his multi-millionaire boss needs part of a Caol pensioner's croft for a tourism and woodland project.

Andrew Aitchison, who runs Nevis Estate for owner and theatre producer Sir Cameron Mackintosh, claimed 50 acres of former commando Donald Cameron's 711-acre croft at 1 and 2 Tarbet, Morar, was key to the impresario's 'masterplan' to breathe life back into the remote area east of Mallaig.

During a gruelling six-hour session at a Scottish Land Court hearing in the Moorings Hotel, Banavie, Mr Aitchison said creating a bunkhouse, holiday homes, toilets, a cafe-gallery and farm shop in the former Tarbet Church could create two full time and two part time jobs.

Also envisaged were a smallholding, woodland regeneration, moorings for yachts visiting Tarbet Bay and daily boat trips across Loch Morar to South Tarbet, where Mr Cameron crofts.

Four more jobs among local joiners, stonemasons and architects would be created over the next five or 10 years, claimed the factor, a rural practice surveyor for Strutt and Parker.

'Sir Cameron is passionate about trying to restore the community at North and South Tarbet,' he said. 'He has the funding and the will to invest in this area so that we will create the infrastructure to allow the community and the area to make use of that going forward.'

Should Lord McGhie find in the applicants' favour, Mr Cameron, aged 87, would have to cede land for the woodland scheme, the smallholding and the bunkhouse. The other buildings lie on croft 3, Tarbet, which is tenanted by Sir Cameron.

Together, the development area comprises a mile-long strip of land between lochs Morar and Nevis, accessible only by boat or on foot. It is owned by Bracora Crofters Ltd, the Tarbet Trust and the Mackintosh Foundation - all bodies set



**Caol crofter Donald Cameron: battling his laird.** 10\_f44cam01

up by Sir Cameron. Highland Council has already granted the project outline planning permission.

Questioned by the applicants' counsel Sir Crispin Agnew, Mr Aitchison said all three 'ownership vehicles' shared the master plan's objectives - to regenerate derelict houses, improve native woodlands, develop tourism and recreational opportunities, and improve fishing.

The bunkhouse, he said, would be built on old ruins in the woodland Mr Cameron's sheep use for shelter.

Asked why it could not be built on Sir Cameron's own croft at North Tarbet, Mr Aitchison doubted planning approval would have been granted.

He said: 'At the moment planning policy is one of preferring to build on existing structures.'

Lewis Kermack, for Mr Cameron, urged Lord McGhie, presiding, to strike down Sir Cameron's legal bid in favour of his client's own application to buy his croft.

Sir Cameron's claim to resume the land, he argued, was based solely on his 1998 'masterplan', which had been so added to it no longer resembled the original and should have no standing in law.

Mr Cameron, of Torlundy Road, Caol, is refusing £25,500 compensation being offered by Sir Cameron's companies.

The applicants have opposed his wish to buy the croft at 15 times the annual rent of £4.75 for 12 years.

The hearing continues in Edinburgh next week.



The crossing from Mallaig is one of the finest sea journeys in the world: now Skye has been ranked as one of Europe's top ten holiday islands. 10\_f44skye01

## Isle of Skye in Europe's top ten island destinations

THE ISLE of Skye has leaped into Europe's top ten island holiday destinations after an online vote.

Eilean a Cheò - 'the misty isle' - came eighth in the European Islands category of Conde Nast Travellers Readers' Choice Awards, beating

Sicily and Croatia's Hvar in the rankings to join the likes of Capri and Madeira as top choice locations.

For Richard Jeffrey, the owner of the Ardvassar Hotel in Sleat, the good publicity could not have come at a better time. He told *The Oban Times*:

'I think everyone on the island will view this in a positive way. Anything like this helps and we could certainly do with a boost.'

'We have concerns that next year, with VAT going up to 20 per cent next year and big public sector

spending cuts will be more difficult, so anything that helps put Skye on a global stage must be a bonus.'

Chief executive of Visit Scotland, Malcolm Routhead said Skye's success was 'fantastic news for Scotland'.

## Doors close on Kinloch Castle for repairs

KINLOCH Castle on the Isle of Rum will close to the public for the winter from Monday to allow essential internal repair and maintenance to be carried out.

The work includes plastering, rewiring and upgrading of the fire alarm and fire doors.

Sarah Bentley, SNH operations manager, said: 'As this is over the winter months we hope this will minimise any inconvenience to people wanting to visit the castle. It will open again as normal in April, when we look forward to welcoming visitors.'

The castle, one of the UK's finest examples of Edwardian interior, is a major visitor attraction for the island and is normally open all year.

Along with the Rum National Nature Reserve it is owned and managed by Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and includes a 55-bed hostel, with self-catering facilities and bistro.

Then owner, Lady Bullough, sold it to the nation more than 50 years ago. The castle attracts more than 6,000 visitors a year.

## Shortlisted

A LOCHABER company has made the shortlist for best wedding industry newcomer after an online poll of UK brides. The firm, run by Megan MacNeill, now progresses to the final of the Bridal Magazine 2010 wedding supplier awards.

## Funeral for murdered aid worker

WESTERN Isles Council convenor Alex MacDonald has paid tribute to aid worker Linda Norgrove following her funeral at Mangersta, Lewis, on Tuesday.

Miss Norgrove, 36, died during a US-led rescue mission to free her from her captors in eastern Afghanistan after being kidnapped on September 26.

She had been working for US-based aid organisation Development Alternatives Inc (DAI) on developing agricultural projects with local farmers.

Mr MacDonald said: 'On behalf of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, I would like to offer our sincerest condolences to John and Lorna Norgrove and Linda's sister, Sophie, at this difficult and sad time.'

'It has not been an easy time for the family in the glare of the international media for the past few weeks but today will mark a closure, albeit a painful closure.'

'From the many tributes that have been paid to Linda Norgrove from all around the world it is obvious

that many outwith these island shores are grieving for someone who was passionate about helping others - a quality which shaped her life's work.'

'I would also like to pay tribute to John and Lorna Norgrove for the calm and dignified way that they have faced this personal tragedy.'

'The establishment of the Linda Norgrove Foundation, by John and Lorna, in honour of their daughter is a tangible and positive way of ensuring that Linda's memory will burn brightly beyond these dark and difficult days.'



## Boots staff gather to bid farewell to colleague

Staff of the Fort William branch of Boots joined Celia Fudge, centre, at the Ben Nevis Inn for a dinner to mark her retirement on Monday. Celia was one of the first employees at the 'new' Boots store 18 years ago and since then has been stalwart of the dispensary, making up orders and preparing them for collection and delivery to individuals and care groups across Lochaber. After dinner she was presented with various gifts on behalf of her friends and colleagues.

## Duror Community Centre re-opens

DUROR community centre has reopened after recent renovations and improvements.

A new suspended wooden floor has been installed, the exterior of the building has been painted and the car park has been extended by 20 spaces.

Duror and Kentallen Community Council chairman Jonathon Baxter says the refurbishments will benefit the local community. He said: 'The people who already use the hall will have a more attractive place to use. It's in a lovely condition now, and hopefully it can be rented out more.'

## Spotlight on Fort Augustus character

LOCHABER Local History Society (LLHS) welcomes Jane B Patten, of Fort Augustus and the West Highland Museum, next Thursday, to give a talk on a little known local character, Roualeyn George Gordon-Cumming.

The larger than life character spent years hunting in South Africa before retiring to Fort Augustus, where his exhibition of his hunting trophies was a major tourist attraction on the banks of the Caledonian Canal in Victorian times.

LLHS chairman Chris Robinson said: 'Jane has been researching this colourful character for many years and this will prove a very curious and interesting evening.'

Everyone is welcome to the Alexandra Hotel event at 8pm.

## Cycle run boosts Mallaig Fishermen's Mission

A CHARITY cycle run from Mallaig to Carradale in Kintyre in aid of the Fishermen's Mission has raised £4,800 - £22 for every mile of the way.

Bobby Willan, from Carradale, pedalled the 220 miles in memory of the *Antares*, the fishing boat from the village lost with all four crew 20 years ago.

Mallaig mission superintendent John Purdon said: 'That's a tremendous amount - the mission is most grateful for the time Bobby has put in. The money will go to supporting the fishermen throughout the area.'

## Free entry to museum

THE WEST Highland Museum in Cameron Square, Fort William is opening its doors free of charge for November.

It is hoped the move will allow more local people to enjoy its varied exhibitions and displays of artefacts from days gone by.

## Social media seminar

THE SECOND of two business seminars on using social media will be held at Lochaber college tonight (Thursday).

The Highlands and Islands Enterprise-sponsored event, presented by Linnhe Creative, will give businesses an insight into how they can be found easily on search engines. The event runs from 7pm to 9pm.

## Archive centre hosts events

LOCHABER Archive Centre is to mark Archives Awareness Month in November with several events.

Local retired GP Dr Chris Robinson is to give a lecture on the medical history of Lochaber at West Highland College UHI, Fort William, on November 8, at 12.30pm, while an exhibition of archival material relating to the history of medicine and public health in Lochaber will run for all of November in the foyer of the college.

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**Island firms' delight at grants boost**

AN ISLE of Skye fish farming operation and a mussel farm on the Isle of Lewis have netted European grants to expand their operations.

Edinbane-based JMP Seafarms was awarded £255,000 from the European Fisheries Fund towards developing a rainbow trout farm on the site of an existing unused salmon farming consent at Watnish.

The move will create four full time and one part time position with an additional 18 seasonal staff.

On Lewis, Bernera-based Hebridean Mussels secured £183,985 to help boost production from 650 tonnes to 1,500 tonnes per annum by 2014.

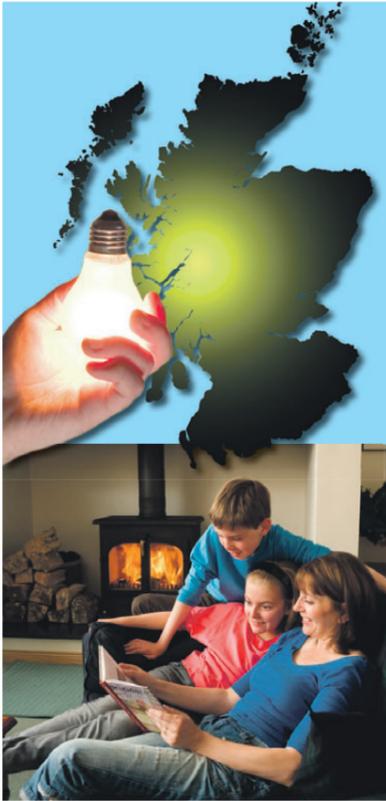
The company will switch to the more efficient New Zealand cultivation method to boost efficiency and yields.

The award will also support the purchase of a workboat and harvesting vessel, which smaller producers in the Outer Hebrides can share.

**Highland candidate hits out at business rates hike**

HIGHLAND Liberal Democrat candidate for Cromarty, Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch, Alan Macrae, has hit out at figures showing Highland businesses will pay almost £10 million more in business rates this year as a result of revaluation.

Claiming the increase equated to a 12 per cent hike and had been imposed without consultation, Mr MacRae said: 'The Scottish Government has harmed the competitiveness of businesses here, compared with those in England where transition relief is in place.'



# Energy saving in Argyll

THE clocks go back this weekend signalling the long nights of winter and the first frosts of the season have had many turning up the central heating or stoking up the fire. The average household spends about £23 a week on fuel and power – which adds up to a not insubstantial £1200 a year. And if your home is not insulated, much of the heat you are paying so much for is being wasted.

In an un-insulated house, a quarter of heat is lost through the roof, a third through the walls, almost a fifth through the windows and even more through the floors, doors and ventilation. Hot water comes at a cost as well. The older the boiler, the more inefficient it is likely to be. If it's been there for 15 years or more, it could probably do with being changed. Energy used to operate white goods also adds to bills.

Nationally, £1.4 billion worth of electricity is spent using washing machines, tumble dryers and dishwashers and even more – £2 billion – is spent powering fridges and freezers. Many householders are not helping themselves – an estimated eight per cent of their electricity bill is run up by leaving appliances, such as the TV, DVD and digibox, on standby. Other seemingly innocuous issues also add to the bill – overflowing the kettle, for instance, means you use more electricity than if you were to boil just the right amount of water. Fortunately, help is at hand, thanks to the Energy Saving Trust. The trust is one of Scotland's leading impartial organisations helping people save energy, thus reducing their carbon emissions. The trust can provide expert insight,

as simple as an old newspaper could be used to fill these gaps. Other alternatives are fitting beading or using a sealant. Though not everybody's favourite, energy saving light bulbs last about 10 times longer than more traditional bulbs, saving up to £70 in their lifetime. Putting a jacket on a hot water tank is another useful tip advocated by the trust. They only cost a few pounds, but with all the heat they trap in, pay for themselves within months. It is suggested that a jacket should be at least three inches thick should be fitted. Loft insulation is one of the simplest ways to save energy, stopping heat disappearing up through the roof, while cavity wall insulation will also help keep costs under control. Double glazing is an obvious – if expensive – way of cutting heat loss through windows by 50 per cent. Switching to a high efficiency boiler may be another expensive outlay, but it could pay dividends by saving up to a quarter on heating bills. When buying new white goods, look for the Energy Saving Trust Recommended logo. These are the most energy efficient in their category and could help cut bills further. If you've installed a new washing machine, try putting clothes through at 30C instead of higher temperatures, using up to 40 per cent less energy in the process

knowledge and advice. Funded by the Scottish Government, it operates a network of advice centres designed to help consumers cut down on the amount of energy they use. So, what would the trust advise to help keep the bills down and houses warm this winter? Firstly, eliminate draughts and wasted heat by installing a cheap, easy to fit brush or seal to exterior doors, letterboxes and keyholes. Draughts also get in through gaps in floorboards and skirting boards, allowing heat to escape. Something



Wind turbines have become more common in rural areas of Argyll

**The average household spends about £23 a week on fuel and power – which adds up to a not insubstantial £1200 a year.**

and if it's a nice day, hang the clothes out rather than using the tumble dryer. The latest and most efficient dishwasher will use 20 per cent less energy than an older model. For anyone unsure of where their home's weak spots may be

when it comes to energy, the Energy Saving Trust has come up with an online home energy check. Simply log onto [www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland](http://www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland). Alternatively contact the trust on 0800 512012 for free and impartial advice.

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Every year we help thousands of local consumers save energy, carbon and money by providing free, impartial, expert advice on all matters related to energy efficiency, small scale renewables and low carbon personal transport.

Not sure where to start? Try our **top ten energy saving tips:**

1. Turn your thermostat down. Reducing your room temperature by 1°C could cut your heating bills by up to 10 percent and typically saves around £55 per year. If you have a programmer, set your heating and hot water to come on only when required rather than all the time.
2. Is your water too hot? Your cylinder thermostat should be set at 60°C/140°F.
3. Close your curtains at dusk to stop heat escaping through the windows and check for draughts around windows and doors.
4. Always turn off the lights when you leave a room.
5. Don't leave appliances on standby and remember not to leave laptops and mobile phones on charge unnecessarily.
6. If possible, fill up the washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher: one full load uses less energy than two half loads.
7. Only boil as much water as you need (but remember to cover the elements if you're using an electric kettle).
8. A dripping hot water tap wastes energy and in one week wastes enough hot water to fill half a bath, so fix leaking taps and make sure they're fully turned off!
9. Use energy saving light bulbs. They last up to 10 times longer than ordinary bulbs, and using one can save you around £40 over the lifetime of the bulb. This saving could be around £65 over its lifetime if you're replacing a high wattage incandescent bulb, or one used for more than a few hours a day.

10. Do a home energy check. Just answer some simple questions about your home and we'll give you a free, impartial report telling you how you can save up to £250 a year on your household energy bills. Call us on **0800 512 012** or visit [energysavingtrust.org.uk](http://energysavingtrust.org.uk).

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**Want to know if the Energy Assistance Package can help you?**

You can find out more about the Scottish Government's Energy Assistance Package, which could help you increase your income, cut your fuel bills and heat your home by calling your local Energy Saving Scotland advice centre and speaking to a friendly energy advisor on **0800 512 012**.

**Need general energy saving advice?**

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**More about us**

The Energy Saving Scotland advice centre Highlands and Islands is one of five local advice centres which make up the Energy Saving Scotland advice network. This network is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by the Energy Saving Trust.

We also work with local authorities, community groups and other partners to promote local energy saving campaigns and organise or attend community events in your area.

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# The Oban Times

& WEST HIGHLAND TIMES

## Council has a duty to listen carefully to all views on school restructuring

THE proposals unveiled by Argyll and Bute Council for the restructuring of schools will come as nothing short of a bombshell for parents.

The authority says the current situation, with 59 per cent of schools being less than half full and some boasting rolls of fewer than five pupils is simply unsustainable in the current financial climate combined with future predictions of a further drop in numbers.

Next week, a meeting of the authority's executive committee is being asked to begin formal consultations on the proposals to reduce the number of primary schools from 80 to 54.

The council insists no decisions have been made in advance of the consultation process and that the proposals set out do not constitute a 'fait accompli'.

There will be many cynics, but let us hope this is the case and that everyone who wants to have their say on the matter has their view duly taken into careful consideration.

Only then can a final decision be taken.

### GLASGOW LETTER

#### Celtic Connections

AS WINTER approaches, it is time to look forward to Celtic Connections 2011 which will take place from Thursday, January 13, to Sunday, January 30. The 18-day festival will feature 300 concerts, ceilidhs, workshops, talks, free events and late night sessions in 14 venues across Glasgow.

At the recent launch of the 2011 programme, artistic director Donald Shaw unveiled an ambitious international programme for this, the 18th year of the festival.

The opening concert will be a collaboration, the Pulse of the World, featuring Zakir Hussain, the Indian tabla virtuoso, and a select group of Scottish and Irish artists. Names such as Patsy Reid, Charlie McKerron, Ross Ainslie, Matheu Watson, Michael McGoldick, Jenna Cumming and John Joe Kelly will be there.

There will be various themes threaded through the programme with anniversaries of various groups of artists, including a 70th birthday tribute to Bob Dylan, the vibrancy of the Scottish folk scene and its new faces, the music of Nova Scotia, the adaptation and transition of music and poetry - the Waterboys in an Appointment with Mr Yeats - together with the usual array of international stars. Details of the programme are available on the website and as soon as the official programme is published I will let you know. Tickets are on sale now.

#### Mary's Meals concert

TOMORROW evening (Friday) there will be a special concert in the Old Fruitmarket in support of Mary's Meals, the charity founded by Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow. Appearing on stage will be Jon Fratelli, Colin MacIntyre, Eddi Reader, Washington Irving, Roddy Hart and Tommy Reilly with some special guests still to be announced.

#### Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association

THE GLASGOW Lewis and Harris Association will get the main gathering season underway when it holds its dinner in the Glasgow Pond Hotel on Thursday, November 4. Neen MacKay is to be chairperson for the event. Neen will again team up at the dinner with John Carmichael with whom she presented Friday's Gaelic requests for many years. Such was their rapport that many non Gaelic speakers tuned in to share the fun.

The concert the following night, November 5, will be held in the Woodside Halls at 7.30pm and will feature singers Jenna Cumming, David MacKenzie, Maggie

MacDonald and Alistair Whyte. Charles MacLeod will provide accordion selections.

Although the gathering has been recorded in the past, the second half will, for the first time, be broadcast live on Isles FM.

In what has become a popular venue for several of the local associations, the annual dance will take place in the Glasgow University Union from 10pm with music from Pneumatic Drills.

#### Paisley Choral Festival

AS HAS become customary in the past few years, the senior Gaelic choirs will take part in a fun competitive evening in the Wynd Centre, Paisley, at 7.30pm tomorrow evening (Friday).

This is usually a relaxed event after the more serious business of the National Mòd and with the Mòd coming to the town in three years' time it is a fitting way to introduce the Paisley 'buddies' to Gaelic culture. There will also be a festival ceilidh dance in the town hall at 7.30pm on Saturday November 6.

#### Engagement

IT GIVES me great pleasure to intimate the engagement of our eldest son Fraser to Jennifer Train from Kilmarnock. Jennifer enjoyed her supply teaching post on Tully so much, in the spring of this year, that they returned to the island for this happy event.

#### Diary dates

**Thursday October 28:** Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Bill Adair.

**Friday October 29:** Paisley Choral Festival - see above. Mary's Meals Charity Concert, Old Fruitmarket - see above.

**Saturday October 30:** Stirling branch of An Comunn Ceilidh, Lesser Albert Hall, 7.30pm.

**Thursday November 4:** Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association Annual Dinner, Glasgow Pond Hotel - see above. Salsa Celtica, celebrating 15 years on the road, with guests Julie Fowlis and Dermot Byrne, ABC Sauchiehall Street. Live at the Star, St Andrew's in the Square, 8pm, Steve Tilston.

**Friday November 5:** Glasgow Lewis and Harris Association Annual Gathering and Dance - see above.

#### Pub scene

DEOCH 'n Dorus will play in the Islay Inn on Friday and it will be Gunna Sound on Saturday.

Gunna Sound will be playing in the Park Bar on Sunday where it will be Eriksay Lilt on Friday and Monach Isles on Saturday. **Neil Murray. Telephone: 0141 954 8105. Email: neilmurray@yahoo.co.uk.**



The funeral march of Clan Chief AJH Maclean 16th of Ardgour, June 1930

From The Oban Times of June 7, 1930 - Estate workers and staff carried the coffin in relays - Among the servants and staff at the funeral were - Mr Donald MacDonald, Head Keeper; Mr Alex Boyd, Head Gardener; Mr Allan Cameron, Watcher; Mr Archibald MacLean, Labourer; Mr Duncan MacPherson, Labourer; Mr Hugh Beaton, Labourer; Mr James Boyd, Estate Joiner; Mr John Nicolson, Labourer; Mr James MacPherson, Labourer; Mr John Cameron, Labourer and Mr William Fraser, Chauffeur. We invite readers to send in flashback photographs. Please send prints to The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB, or email editor@obantimes.co.uk. Prints or emails must be accompanied by a caption, name, address and telephone number. Anyone wishing their prints returned must supply a stamped addressed envelope.

## Letters to the editor

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### Proposed Clachan wind farm

Sir,  
The Oban Times recently reported the plans of the Kilmelford and Kilninver communities to manage their possible windfall, should the proposed Clachan wind farm go ahead.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the hill, many in the neighbouring community on Seil, who would actually have to live in the shadow of the proposed development, are seriously concerned about the impact on their own community and an area of outstanding natural beauty. Setting aside any arguments concerning the lack of efficiency of electricity generation from wind power and whether it actually reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, not to mention higher prices to consumers, the proposed development would not be a blip on a distant hill top seen only by passing traffic, but enormous turbines sited less than half a mile from the historic Bridge over the Atlantic.

At 78 metres (183 feet) tall, the proposed turbines would dominate the skyline and dwarf the nearest dwelling only 520 metres away. It's very hard to comprehend just how huge these things

are, but to try to put it into perspective, consider that McCaig's tower stands on ground 'only' 55 metres above sea level.

The developer's scoping report notes that the proposed wind farm would be located in The Sensitive Countryside Zone within the Argyll and Bute Local Plan and a designated Area of Panoramic Quality. Surely this is not an appropriate site for such a development?

**Sara Wilson, Clachan Seil, Oban.**

### Robin's Nest

Sir,  
I enjoyed Willie Campbell's article on Taynuilt, but he is not quite right in saying that the Robin's Nest, first time round, was run by Mrs Macnaughton. In fact, it was started and run by Mrs Ella Maclean.

Mrs Maclean was widowed, childless, in her 30s, early in WW11. Then in her 40s, she volunteered for the Women's Auxiliary Air Force. She joined as an Aircraftswoman (Second Class) but by the end of the war was a Group Officer, the equal of the male rank of Group Captain. The lady clearly had character.

Mrs Maclean had five sisters, one being a Mrs Macnaughton, and one being a Mrs Watson, my

mother. After the war, the Macnaughton and Watson families started having their summer holidays together at Taynuilt. This group had, of course, visitors, an early one being Mrs Maclean who noticed that we all drove to Oban for morning coffee - when the men were not up the loch fishing, that is.

With characteristic energy she created Robin's Nest, and lived in the top flat above it, though she retained her home in Glasgow. The family holidays continued and expanded taking in other relations and the younger generation's friends.

I remember once counting 15 of us in the Robin's Nest having morning coffee and loudly, and laughingly, 'debating' who's turn it was to pay.

It all ended in the mid 1950s, but not with drama or argument. Quite simply, the younger generation understandably drifted off to do 'their own thing,' and the older generation, including Mrs Maclean, felt that the days of 'The Tanuult Holiday' were over.

The memories of these great times remained very much alive, but it took nearly 40 years after my last Taynuilt holiday, and to be retired, for me to return to the shores of

Loch Etive, the finest place to live in the world.

**W Gordon Watson, North Connel.**

### Unduly alarmist

Sir,  
The next few years will be difficult because of the mountain of debt the country has to repay.

However, some of the figures being banded about in last week's Oban Times were unduly alarmist. The UK Government has set its budget for the next four years. Two of Argyll and Bute's large employers are heavily dependent on UK budgets - Faslane and SAMS at Dunstaffnage. They will escape the worst of the cuts because the submarine programme and the science budget are not being cut by the UK Government.

The UK Government has also cut Scotland's budget by less than the budgets for England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The UK Government has done its bit to protect as many jobs as possible in Argyll and Bute. Now it's the turn of the Scottish Government to set its budget. I hope they too will do their best to help Argyll and Bute through the very difficult times that lie ahead.

**Alan Reid MP.**

### ISLAY LETTER

#### Top tope

THE ISLAND'S second tope fishing competition of the year took place at Port Ellen and attracted 10 boats and 13 anglers representing all ages.

The heaviest tope, weighing in at 55lbs, was landed by Scott MacGurn, with Ross Heads and Hugh Campbell in second and third places.

Ross also achieved the heaviest catch of five individual fish while Julie Mitchell reeled in the heaviest fish in the ladies' section.

Lyle Heads was the champion angler in the junior class, closely followed by Millie Mitchell and Jamie Stithell.

All catches in the competition, held in what was described as 'lumpy seas', were returned unharmed to their watery domain.

#### Romance at Finlaggan

A GERMAN couple became the first in Britain to marry on 10/10/10, regarded by many as the luckiest day of the century, when they tied the knot just after midnight at Finlaggan, the ancient seat of the Lords of the Isles.

Rolf Heff and his fiancé Pirro Batteiger exchanged vows before local registrar Sharon MacHaffie in the candlelit MacGillespie House on Eilean Mòr just after midnight on October 10.

Guests from Germany and Port Ellen, where the couple are well known, provided a torchlit guard of honour to the Finlaggan information centre where they were presented with a bottle of commemorative whisky. Then it was off to Port Ellen's White

Hart Hotel where the celebrations continued far into the night.

Herzlichen glückwunsch und glück.

#### Donald MacIndeor

WE WERE all greatly saddened to learn of the death of retired college lecturer and teacher Donald MacIndeor of Port Charlotte and Eaglesham.

Donald was born into a crofting family in Port Charlotte in 1926 and was steeped in the island's culture and traditions in an all Gaelic-speaking household.

He attended the local primary school and the then junior secondary school at Bowmore before heading off for the mainland and further education.

He studied agriculture and horticulture and spent his working life in the teaching profession. He was a valued member of the teaching staff at the Lawmuir Agricultural School at Jackton before taking up a lecturer's post at Paisley's Reid Kerr College.

He married Janette Rodger and set up home at Eaglesham in East Refrewshire where their son Alasdair and daughter Lindsay were born.

Donald pursued many interests and these included sailing, fishing, classical music, the songs of the Gaels and world travel.

But he was at his happiest and 'nearer God's heart' in his garden where he was able to fully utilise his horticultural abilities and expertise. He faithfully maintained the garden at his island home in Port Charlotte and the garden he created at his Eaglesham residence was a joy to behold.

His final days of illness and weakness were borne with customary fortitude and these were greatly brightened with the recent arrival of his cherished grandson Ruaraidh.

Family and friends gathered at St Kieran's Church at Port Charlotte on Saturday to pay their last respects to this humble and kindly man who will remain long in our memories.

The service was conducted by Church of Scotland Reader Scott Carrol who also officiated at the interment at Kilchoman cemetery. A further service of thanksgiving for Donald's life was held at Eaglesham Parish Church on Tuesday.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Janette, Lindsay, Alastair and the wider family.

Goodbye Donald. You touched many lives and we all mourn your passing.

#### Best ale

FOR THE second year in succession, the Bridgend-based Islay Ales Company has won a major CAMRA award for its 'Single Malt' ale at the Ayrshire Beer Festival in Troon. The winning ale was first produced to mark the 2005 Islay Music and Malt Festival and went into full production on the following year.

Company director Paul Hathaway expressed his delight at winning two years in a row which demonstrates that the members of the Campaign for Real Ale certainly know their stuff.

Cheers!  
**Hugh Smith, 4 Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay PA43 7JX. Telephone: 01496 810658.**

## A view from the tower

by McCaig

### Britain's policeman role to end

A GROWING number of political commentators have asked recently when British governments are going to face the reality of not being able to maintain our self-appointed role of being one of the world's policemen.

Up to now their queries have been studiously ignored but suddenly the reality of not having the cash to fund the necessary equipment or to pay for troops in far-flung parts of the world has been brought home to a Tory Prime Minister and a right wing Defence Secretary. I wonder if David Cameron and Liam Fox, in their pursuit of massive national deficit clearance, realise just what they are doing.

I have been asking for some years why successive governments have decided it is our duty to be a universal policeman and always to do what our allies the United States does. The current US President has at least indicated that war in Afghanistan has to be terminated as soon as a pro-western government can be established despite the fact centuries of corrupt practices have still to be wiped out.

How did David Cameron and Liam Fox achieve what seemed unthinkable when the coalition government came to power this June? Desperation to do something about the nation's biggest-ever deficit is the catalyst. If it wasn't going to be enormously expensive to cancel the two aircraft carriers presently being built and have massive unemployment problems at shipyards in various parts of Britain, they would have cancelled them as they can't afford to pay for the planes to fly from them for a decade at least. Similarly, any replacement for the Trident submarine fleet has been postponed until after the next General Election.

Vicious cuts in manpower in all three armed services have also been announced and, apart from howls of protests by long-retired senior officers, they seem to have been accepted by even right-wing Tories who are at the receiving end of tax increases, a severe curtailment of tax dodging and threats of redundancy even in professions which have never had to consider that such could happen to them - good job the former Bank of Scotland has dropped its long-time slogan: 'A Friend For Life.'

**Public sector angst**  
THE BIGGEST howls of anger, fired up by fear of redundancy, has, of course, come from what has for

a long-time now been referred to as the 'public sector'.

We've all known that the ever-increasing number who have become employed in it, in national and local government, the NHS and the police force to name but a few, were living on borrowed time. There just isn't sufficient money to pay not just the wages and the pension contributions but for all the frills devised by a minority of those who feel they need to create 'non-jobs' to keep themselves employed. The Trade Unions, who are shouting so loudly, should examine their own organisations for those who are cruising along in 'the slipstream' and not doing essential tasks.

No-one wants to have people fired, nor do employers want to see those whom they have had to 'let go' struggling to survive but just as we, individually, have to make economies when there are national or individual crises, so must we accept basic economic facts: we are an aging population with a shrinking workforce which cannot pay for all the extras that have now become 'essentials', as well as making bigger than ever provision for old age. Marches, working-to-rule, strikes and all the other devices of protest are legitimate but what benefits are to be gained from them? Better to accept that short-term austerity should lead to a better future.

### Art exhibition

IF YOU want to refresh the mind and spirit and forget our current troubles spend a hour or two at Knipoch Hotel, just south of Oban on the road to Lochgilphead, and immerse yourself in the works of two talented local artists Isobelle Smith and Valerie Johnston - Mrs John MacFarlane.

Both are full-time artists and have exhibited widely. Their styles and subjects are different but their undoubted talents shine through. Isobelle is influenced by changing seasons and the vagaries of our West Highland weather. Her deft handling of colour and textures in both her landscapes and flower paintings bring one back again and again to something one has missed first time round.

Val MacFarlane is definitely influenced by Celtic spirits and Norse mythology which are treated with a richness of colour and texture forcing the viewer to accept the intensity of her message or the sheer delight of feeling for her subject.

### YOUR LETTERS

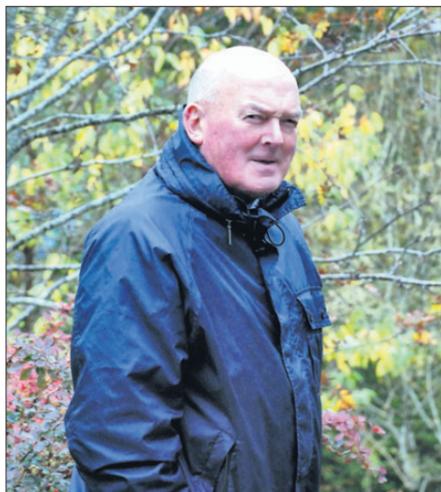
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# My Village Spean Bridge

**Bill MacLachlan has lived in Spean Bridge since 1950 and in that time he has become an important member of the community. A retired service engineer, Bill has always had a love of shinty. A player of the game for 30 years and a referee for 20, Bill now works for the Camanachd Association as a referee assessor as well as supporting his local side Lochaber Camanachd. Bill is also a member of the congregation of the local Church of Scotland Kilmonivaig parish, where he helps to maintain the property. Here, Bill explains to *Oban Times* reporter RICHARD HADDOCK some of the history of Spean Bridge.**



Bill MacLachlan has lived in Spean Bridge for most of his life. 10\_f44bill01

**Does Spean Bridge have an interesting history?**

The main history for Spean Bridge would be the High Bridge. They've just opened up a new pathway directly down from the memorial to the glen, which was the site of the first skirmish of the '45 Jacobite revolution. The first battle was fought at High Bridge and in those days they could cross the High Bridge. It's only about half a mile along the river from the Spean Bridge. The path has only opened this year and they've got plaques telling you the history of it.

From this area came many clans and sects who fought in the '45 and some of the famous clan names you get here: the Camerons and the MacDonalds, and most of them were great supporters of the Jacobite rising.

Also in that area you'll come across another bridge, a fairly modern bridge that was built to take trains from Fort William to Fort Augustus and it never took off because of passenger numbers.

I think in this day and age it would have been something like the Jacobite train, but it closed as it wasn't making money.

But the parapets are still there. If you walk along to High Bridge, you'll come across these massive pillars.

**How long have you lived in the village?**

I've been here 60 plus years. We moved here when my mother got a house in the village.

Most of the houses you see here weren't here 50 years ago; they've been built since then. I was born in Torlundy,

which had a tiny school – five classes and 15 pupils.

**How would you describe the village to someone who has never been there?**

I don't know how you would describe the village now. It used to be a village and now it's becoming like a small feeder town. I mean, it hasn't stopped growing, as you can see. They're building flats and there's planning permission for more private housing.

It's lost its village aspect. It is still very nice, but it will never return to the small village community. It's very touristy now and the scenery roundabout it is beautiful.

It's a hub of two roads for traffic going north, south, east and west. While I love living in it, a lot of people just use it as a hub to work in Fort William.

The people who were originally here are still here and their families are still here.

Because of the demand for housing, a lot of people have come in who maybe aren't locals, but that's no bad thing.

A lot of people come, live here, go to work, come back and might not join in the community, but that's their way of living.

There are so many people who come and stay in the village who are walkers, tourists and downhill or mountain bikers. They are a bit of a pest on the road, but I suppose they bring a lot of trade in.

Also, one of my focal points is the shinty, and it's a great community thing because we have so many young people involved. You won't find them hanging

about street corners, they're all involved with shinty.

**How much has Spean Bridge changed since you were a child or moved to the village?**

Huge, absolutely huge. My way of thinking, it's grown by a factor, in terms of population and houses, of about eight or 10 in the last 40 years, and they're still building. There's a limit where the planning people would have to say no. There are objections already because they are just swamping us with houses.

I could take you round the village and show you in 1950 that house wasn't there, that estate wasn't there, that building wasn't there. It was quite a tiny, compact place.

There is future change coming to the village. Maybe I'm getting to the age now where I'd be happy for it just to stay as it is.

**Do you have a favourite place or building in Spean Bridge?**

My favourite place would be the playing field for shinty and the church. The playing field because the views are amazing and it's part of the community.

**What are the challenges facing the village?**

There is a local plan for the village to grow bigger and I'm not terribly supportive of it. I would like a period of pausing, thinking what is the best way forward. I would hope that there would be a pause in any planning in the village for a few years.

The local plan shows the village should extend out towards the crossroads, half a mile more of houses and facilities.

I don't think it's going to benefit anyone if they allow that. I think we need a period of stability and the planners to rethink this out.

There is a demand for it, but you could carry on doing that and it just becomes totally urban and to me that's not what this area is about.

We have the facilities, we have good catering outlets, good B&Bs and accommodation, we have the railway station and we have attractions like the golf club.

It would be nice to have a period of stability, just to pause everything and look at it again because we seem to be rushing on.

We need a period of calm to reassure everyone we're not going to go mad and spread it along to the crossroads. I think that would be dreadful to be honest.

I'm not totally against it but I don't think it would benefit anyone other than the



The Commando Memorial attracts thousands of visitors every year. 10\_f44bill02

house owners. But people need houses.

**Tell us a bit about the history of shinty in the village.**

The original game of shinty was played between clans and it developed into a situation where people felt it needed to be more organised.

When I started playing shinty there was seniors and juniors, there was no league structure. There wasn't all that many teams in Scotland - there's 40 associated teams now in shinty. When I started playing there was 10 or 12 teams in the whole of Scotland.

Now it's a huge structure compared to what it used to be, and there's a lot more young people playing the game now, which is great. It keeps the communities interested too. A lot of the Spean Bridge and Roy Bridge people follow the youngsters.

**Do you have a favourite time of the year in Spean Bridge?**

I like springtime. We can't say we get brilliant summers in Lochaber but I like to see the start of another year.

And it's the start of the shinty season.

**What do visitors like about Spean Bridge?**

I would say we are still hanging on to our rural aspect and they like that.

They can go for walks in the local area, there is a number of them.

There's a lot of outdoor activities near Spean.

Most visitors come by car. I wouldn't say a great number of tourists come up to stay in Spean, generally people make this a base and go out from here - up to Skye, up to Inverness, out to Aviemore, we're pretty handy I think.

**Is there anyone famous from the village?**

A long time ago there was a strongman world champion, A A Cameron, who lived along the Inverness road. He was a big man, about six feet three or four. I met him in the late '40s, early '50s. I think he actually defeated the Russian champion at wrestling. He would be the most famous man, going back many, many years.

In the modern day, there's been lots of prominent people, famous is maybe a word it would be difficult to place on someone. There's been a lot of great servants to the community, both in Roy Bridge and Spean Bridge.



Bill has a strong connection with shinty and follows his local side Lochaber Camanachd. 10\_f40shinty01

## 25 Years Ago

### Those Were The Days

The Oban Times

Thursday November 1, 1985

**'Travel conditions would prove unfit for cattle'**

CLAIMS that more than 1,000 Uist pupils and students were improperly supervised, insufficiently fed and 'treated like cattle' when travelling between Stomoway and Uist were denied this week by Comhairle Nan Eilean's education department.

The row began after delays hit ferries when pupils went off and returned from their mid-term break.

When pupils and students left their hostels and lodgings to travel home for their week's holiday, they got as far as Tarbert before finding themselves stormbound. Pupils had to spend the night in the ferry and no berths were provided.

The ferry was under charter to take the pupils direct to Uist that night. But because of the extremely bad weather, the boat could not sail.

In the morning, conditions were still too bad to berth at Lochmaddy, and the ferry resumed its normal passage, carrying pupils on its normal run to Uig. After calling at Uig the pupils were finally taken home to Lochmaddy to be bussed home.

There were also delays on the return journey.

While the hold-up this time was only about an hour-and-a-half, parents and pupils claimed that because of their late arrival many of those in lodgings did not receive an evening meal.

Neil Galbraith, Comhairle nan Eilean's director of education, pointed out that no young children were involved - all the pupils and students were in the 17 to 19 years age group.

Only one education department official travelled with the party, but this was considered ample for older students.

No complaints of students not receiving evening meals had reached him, Mr Galbraith said.

**Mussel farming success**

MUSSEL farming in Skye has proved to be a big success at one unidentified location, a Highland Regional Council report has disclosed.

But another experimental site proved to be too difficult to develop with next to no growth in spat. Five enterprises are involved in the business with regional council involvement in at least two others.

The report to this week's development committee details what has happened since last April when, after a mussel-farming seminar at Portree, the committee decided to allocate £1,100 to help provide sites.

One site proved to be difficult to develop with virtually nil spatfall growth over the initial period.

However, another site development has resulted in spatfall growth to date far in excess of that experienced in Lewis and Harris this year.

This site alone indicates potential to provide adequate spatfall ropes to develop a major mussel farm in the district.

The next stage, the report goes on to explain, seems set to proceed with two firms intending to buy and develop rafts.

Another six or seven more firms may also do the same.

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

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**Across**

- 7 Drink dispenser (6)
- 8 Units of heat (6)
- 9 LP player (2-2)
- 10 An abnormality of the eye, characterized by opacity of the lens (8)
- 11 In the wrong net (3,4)
- 13 Panache (5)
- 15 Edge to make your hair curl! (5)
- 17 Sweet age (7)
- 20 High angled cannon (8)
- 21 Coordinate netting? (4)
- 23 Back (6)
- 24 Leave musically? (4,2)

**Down**

- 1 Silk wrap (4)
- 2 Removing outer coating (6)
- 3 Bright jacket for entertainment (7)
- 4 Affirm (5)
- 5 With iron (6)
- 6 Waste away (8)
- 12 Charger (8)
- 14 Strip (7)
- 16 Elastic holder (6)
- 18 Womaniser (6)
- 19 Layer to absorb rays (5)
- 22 Outer covering (4)

**Last Week's Solution**

O	P	T	P	M	T						
A	P	P	L	E	T	S	C	A	M	P	I
E	U	E	A	G	S						
A	N	O	N	R	E	L	E	G	A	T	E
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E	A	B	M	E							
P	R	U	R	I	E	N	T	S	I	C	K
A	W	A	R	O	I	H					
E	F	F	I	G	M	I	S	F	I	T	
T	G	L	S	T	N						

## Ardgay Cheviot ram breaks Dingwall centre record

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 520 rams at its annual show and sale of Hill Cheviots at Dingwall last Friday when Brian Ross, of Mid Gruinards, Ardgay, smashed the previous centre record of £4,500 when his champion sold for £8,500.

Buyer was David Renwick, who has 1,000 ewes at Keppoch, Dundonnell, near Ullapool. This was the second year in succession Mr Ross has won the championship at the sale and Mid Gruinards also sold to £5,000 and £4,000 for two more of the two-shears which he had forward.

There was good demand throughout for quality sheep and the

520 rams sold to average £384.75, + £13.75 on last year.

The reserve champion was a two shear from Messrs W. & F. Elliot, Hethpool, Wooler, realising £1,500 to Mrs S. A. Mackenzie, Rooffield West, Muir of Ord.

Shearings sold to £1,200 from Rhifail Farms, Strathnaver while two shears sold to £8,500 for the champion from Mid Gruinards.

Three shears sold to £5,000 from Inkstack Farm, Thurso and four shears sold to £1,150 from Badanloch Estate, Kinbrace. Five shears sold to £1,000 from Attonburn, Yetholm.

Ram lambs sold to £480 from Tulloch Ard, Dunbeath.

## Kinloids heifers sell to 248.7p per kilo at Fort William

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 542 weaned calves and store cattle, 33 OTM cattle and 24 adult head of breeding cattle at Fort William last Saturday when quality calves continued to sell well with more weathered types meeting a more hesitant demand.

Bullocks averaged 160.9p and sold to 211.3p per kg for a pen of 194kg Charolais crosses from Dunlichity Farm, Farr, and £650 twice for a 436kg Limousin cross from Traigh Farm, Arisaig, and a 390kg Limousin cross from Munerigie, Invergarry.

Heifers averaged 148.8p and sold to 248.7p per kg for a pen of 197kg Simmental crosses from Kinloids, Arisaig and £750 for 464kg Shorthorn crosses from 19 Portnalong, Carbost.

Young bulls averaged 140.5p and sold to 150.3p per kg for a 193kg Limousin cross from 12 and 13 Inveroy, Roy Bridge, and £370 for a 251kg Limousin cross from Drimsallie, Kinlochell.

Breeding cattle sold to £1,000 for a Limousin cross cow with heifer calf at foot from Knockie Estate, Whitebridge.

OTM cows averaged 77.5p and sold to 104.6p per kg for a 712kg Simmental cross from Moy Farm, Banavie, and £815 for a 794kg Aberdeen Angus from Breakachy, Laggan.

OTM bulls sold to 76.8p per kg and £615 for a 801kg Charolais from Keppoch Farms, Roy Bridge.

OTM clean bullocks & heifers sold to 118.1p per kg and £625 for two 529kg Shorthorn crosses from Resipole Farm, Acharacle.

## Aberchalders Cheviots lead Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 6,463 breeding ewes and lambs at Dingwall last Thursday when breeding ewes met a more hesitant demand. Feeding ewes continued to sell at recent rates. Gimmers averaged £83.49 and sold to £135 twice for Cheviots from the dispersal of the Aberchalders flock, Invergarry, and for Texel crosses from the Castle of Mey Trust, Longoe, Mey.

Correct ewes averaged £62.14 and sold to £140 for Cheviots from

Aberchalders. Broken mouth ewes averaged £45.92 and sold to £70 for Cheviot Mules from Culmailly Farm, Golspie.

Feeding ewes averaged £48.38 and sold to £98 for Texels from Tri-deug, 13 West Watten, Watten.

Lambs averaged £41.39 and sold to £69 for a Texel cross from Greenlands Farm, Arabella.

Rams sold to £160 gross for a Suffolk from Beinn Ghlas, Beauuly, while wedders averaged £45.72 and sold to £68 for a Cheviot from Culkein Tenants, Lairg.

# Skye township monitor pilot to reap benefits for year to come

THE first programme to assess agricultural practices in a crofting township over three years has ended - but local crofters say they will continue to reap benefits from the project for years to come.

The monitor township at Borve on Skye involved eight inbye crofts with 1200Ha of common grazings and involved trials in livestock and grassland management practices. The results proved very positive both for the farming community and the endangered corncrake, a summer visitor to Skye from Africa.

A combined approach to grassland and wildlife management has produced better quality silage while at the same time providing a more welcoming habitat for the bird, which appreciates long grass in which to nest and feed.

Following local crofters' concerns about low productivity from their sheep, a feedblock trial proved to be very successful in improving hill lambing percentages, while the recent purchase of a Limousin bull based on Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) has so far resulted

in a very impressive 100 per cent calving rate.

Other results of the scheme include improvements in store calves and shed design.

Township clerk Alaistar Nicolson said: 'We were apprehensive at the start, as it was a step into the dark. However, we are pleased we took part and have benefited from the support of local crofters in the community group and industry experts.'

'It will take another few years before the full benefits of the practices we have introduced are fully known but there have been many positive outcomes and we

hope that the techniques which have been beneficial for us will be taken on board by many in the wider crofting community.'

Thirty-five community members gathered to mark the end of the programme and to discuss the results of involvement in the project.

Peter Beattie of Quality Meat Scotland thanked crofters for their contributions and openness over the three years and contrasted the struggle the group had had in 2007 to see a way forward for crofting with the optimism that was evident now. He noted that the route the

township took to purchasing a quality bull was a model for the way other crofters could buy their bulls.

Peter presented crystal glasses and whisky to the crofters as a thank you for their efforts over the last three years. It is hoped that this project will be followed up by a new monitor farm in Skye and Lochalsh in the next year.

The township was part of the monitor farm programme run by Quality Meat Scotland. The programme was facilitated by Janette Sutherland and Siobhan Macdonald, SAC Portree.



Caledonian Marts held a show and sale of suckled calves, store and breeding cattle at Oban Livestock Centre on Tuesday of this week when there was a good entry in all classes, with particular interest in the annual consignments of Luining and Sim/Luining cross heifers forward for this sale. At the show prior to the sale, judge R Moffat, Wooplaw Farm, Galashiels selected as his best breeding heifer calf a 10-month old Simmental cross from David Shaw, Drimmin Estate, Morvern. In the bulling heifer classes, judge Moffat chose as his winner a three-quarter Shorthorn heifer from I Malcolm, Wester Coilechat.

## FORT WILLIAM Dingwall and Highland Marts

Bullocks up to 200kg Dunlichity Farm, £410, 17 Inveroy, Roy Bridge, 181.8p; 201-250kg 2 & 3 Kinloids, £490, 205p; 251-300kg - Moy Farm, £600, £600, Arisaig, 207.2p; 301-350kg - Mucomir Farm, Spean Bridge, £590, 186.7p; 351-400kg - 8, 9 & 10 Culchenna, Onich, £585, Munerigie, 166.7p; 401-450kg - Dhivach Farm, Lewinston, £640, 153.2p. Heifers up to 200kg - Kinloids, £490, Dunlichity Farm, 243.1p; 201-250kg - Dunlichity Farm, £480, 237.6p; 251-300kg - 2 & 3 Kinloids, £530, 190p; 301-350kg - Traigh Farm, £470; 351-400kg - 19 Portnalong, £680, 172.2p; 401-450kg - 19 Portnalong, £660, 150p; 451-500kg - Knockie Estate, £720, 19 Portnalong, 161.6p; 501-550kg - Knockie Estate, £705.

## ISLAY United Auctions

Lambs SuffolkX: £67.50 Coull and Gartbreck £66.50 Ronnachmore £66, Eorrabu £65 Octofad and Uiskenteu £64 Machrie Croft, Ardbeg and Paire A Chlann £62.50 Gartbreck £62 and £61.50 Octofad £61.50 Stanalane, Kilchiaran and Kinnabus (Kirkpatrick) £61 Octofad £60.50 Machrie Croft £60 Bunnansuige and Craighfad. TexelX: £66.50 Keppols and MuleX: £66.50 Coull £64.50 RSPB Kinnabus and Ronnachmore £64 Ardbeg £62 Gartloist and Dunlossit Estate £60.50 Bunnansuige. CharollaisX: £59.50 Ardalla Estate CheviotX: £66.50 Ballivacar £63.50 and £61.50 Balinabby (Jones). Cross: £59 Coull £58 Coull-labus Mule: £59 Balinabby (Jones) £56 Ardbeg £55.50 RSPB Kinnabus £55 Scarrabus. Blackface: £57 Ardfermal and Balinabby (Jones) £56.50 Kimdrochaid £55.50 Uiskenteu £54 RSPB Kinnabus £53.50 Coullton £52 Dunlossit Estate £50 Keppolsmore. Gimmers Blackface: £72 Keppolsmore. Cast ewes TexelX: £80 Dunlossit Estate £63.50 Kilmeny £63 Bui-lanuit and Ardbeg CheviotX: £52.50 Kinnabus (Kirkpatrick) Cross: £65.50 Octofad £59.50 Coille £57.50 Keppols Blackface: £40.50 - Dunlossit

## BONAR BRIDGE, £650. Two shear - Mid Gruinards, £5,000, £4,000; Hethpool, Wooler, £2,500. Three shear - Achenoul Farms Kinbrace, £4,400; Badanloch Estate, £1,300; Hethpool, £1,100. Four shear - Keoldale Sheep Stock Club, Dumess, £1,000; Balnakeil, Dumess, £700; Keoldale Sheep Stock Club, £600. Five shear - Balnakeil, £900; Keppoch Farm, £500; Ram lambs - Tulloch Ard, £250.

Correct ewes Cross: £61.50 Ballachlaven Blackface: £43.50 Keppols £41.50 Keppolsmore. Ewe lambs CheviotX: £68.50 Ballivacar Cross: £63 Frederick Cresce Blackface: £48 Keppolsmore. Prices per kilo Lambs SuffolkX: 171p Octofad 167p and 163p Island 161p Octofad and Patre A Chlann 159p Octofad and Ballachlaven 155p Coillabus 154p Corrary and Ballachlaven. TexelX: 172p Dunlossit Estate 171p Octofad 164p Stanalane 161p RSPB Kinabus 160p Ardbeg 157p Ardfermal and Ballachlaven 155p Coull 154p Ronnachmore. CharollaisX: 157p Ardalla Estate CheviotX: 154p Balinabby (Jones) Cross: 163p Woodend 162p Leorin. Mule: 159p Glenegedale. Blackface: 173p Ballachlaven 153p Tarbert Estate.

## DALMALLY United Auctions

Lambs TexelX: £53 Knock Dhu and High Balantyre £50 Garvachy. Cross: £50 Sorrisdale, Coll Blackface: £50 Brackley £49 Raera £48.50 2 Treslaig £47.50 Ronnachan £44.50 Gallanach Estate £44 Cladich and Garraron and Melfort Farms £43.50 Raera £42 Ronnachan Farms £41.50 High Balantyre and Castles Estate. Cast ewes Cross: £42.50 Sorrisdale, Coll £40.50 Ciaid, Coll £40 Gallanach Estates £38 Bardromin Mule: £52.50 Lephinkill £45.50 Goatfield Blackface: £41.50 Luriginish £40 Brackley £39.50 Drissaug. Gimmers Blackface: £58 and £54 Brackley. Rams Texel: £300 and £220 - Ardeonaig (D MacKenzie). Prices per kilo Lambs

## LOCHMADDY Dingwall and Highland Marts

Weaned bullocks: up to 200kg - 6 Borve, Berneray, £310, 172.2p; 201-300kg - 4 Urgha, Isle of Harris, £490, 196.0p; 251-300kg - 15 Linciate, Creagorry, £610, 20 Rushgarry, Berneray, 211.1p; 301-350kg - 38 Linnique, Eochair, £680, Hastain, Bayhead, 211.3p; 351-400kg - 38 Linnique, £770, 205.3p; 401-450kg - 1 Clachan Farm, Lochmaddy, £730, 178.1p; 451-500kg - 5 Baleshare, Lochmaddy, £590, 126.9p; 501-550kg - 220 Stoneybridge, Lochboisdale, £620, 119.2p. Weaned Heifers: up to 200kg - 20 Rushgarry, Berneray, £250, 138.9p; 201-250kg - 2 Hosta, Tigharry, £350, 142.9p; 251-300kg - 2 Hosta, £560, 186.7p; 301-350kg - 8 Clachan Sands, Lochmaddy, £600, Hastain, 191.2p; 351-400kg - 1 Knockline, Bayhead, £620, 172.2p; 401-450kg - 22 & 10 Balem-ore, Bayhead, £600, 136.4p; 451-500kg - 237 Stoneybridge, Lochboisdale, £460, 100.0p. Bullocks: 251-300kg - 12 Sollas, Lochmaddy, £495, 165.0p; 301-350kg - 19 Carinish, Lochmaddy, £450, 132.4p; 351-400kg - 17 Torlum, Ben-becula, £480, 133.3p; 401-450kg - 9 Malaglate, Lochmaddy, £560, 12538p; 451-500kg - Old Inn, £800, 160.0p; 501-550kg - Old Inn, £810, 155.3p; 551-600kg - Old Inn, £800, 137.9p. Heifers: 301-350kg - 19 Carinish,

## ORKNEY TEXELS to £800 at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 191 rams at its second continental ram sale of the year. Beltex sold to £250 on three occasions for shearings from Upper Auchenlay, Dunblane, (twice), and Mariain, Evanton. Charollais sold to £380 for a shearing from Whitebog, Rosemarkie. Bluefaced Leicesters sold to £650 twice for shearings from The Arr, Lethen. Suffolks sold to £600 for a three shear from Whitebog. Texels sold to £800 for a shearing from Veltigar, Tankerness. Crosses sold to £550 for a Charollais cross shearing from Upper Auchenlay. Lleyn sold to £580 for a shearing from Corrimony, Glen Urquhart. Meatline sold to £400 for a shearing from Clynellish, Brora.

## DALMALLY sheep sale

UNITED Auctions held their second October sale of all classes lambs and sheep at Dalmally Auction Mart when 3086 head was sold. All classes sold at rates in keeping with current trends.

## PORTREE ram sale

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd, sold 308 rams at its annual sale of rams at Portree. Rams sold to £400 thrice for Blackface shearings from 13 Peinchorran, Braes, Portree.

## Record entry of more than 4000 at Islay Market

UNITED Auctions held their second October sale of all classes lambs and sheep at Islay Auction Mart when a record entry of 4,258 head was sold. A steady trade prevailed throughout the sale for all classes with Coull and Gartbreck leading the prices per head for lambs at £67.50. Feeding ewes were topped at £80 for a pen of Texel crosses from Dunlossit Farms, Lossit. Ewe lambs sold to £68.50 for Cheviot crosses from Ballivacar.

## Quality calves sell well at Dingwall

DINGWALL and Highland Marts Ltd sold 634 weaned calves and store cattle and 76 OTM cattle at Dingwall last Wednesday when top quality calves continued to sell at last weeks satisfactory rates, plainer and longer keeping kinds sold at less money. Bullocks calves averaged 174.4p and sold to 216.4p per kg for a 305kg Limousin cross from Kildun, Dingwall. Heifer calves averaged 148.6p and sold to 263.9p per kg for a 269kg Limousin cross from Achenoul Farms, Kinbrace. Store bullocks averaged 147.3p and £800 for a 600kg Simmental cross from 91/92 Achviach, Dornoch while heifers averaged 133.8p and £795 for a 575kg Simmental from Ballone, Abriachan. Young bulls averaged 122.6p and sold to 141.7p per kilo and £360 for a pen of 254kg Limousin crosses from 9/22 Callanish, Lewis. OTM cows averaged 72.6p and sold to 103.5p per kg for a 710kg Limousin cross from Tomcluch, Nairn, and £795 for a 795kg Charolais from Scotsburn Farm, Kildary. OTM bulls averaged 65.1p and sold to 83.4p per kg for an 845kg Limousin from Culmill, Kiltarlity, and £805 for a 1,095kg Simmental from 7 Sollas, Lochmaddy. OTM bullocks and heifers averaged 99.4p and sold to 118.9p per kg for a 475kg Limousin cross bullock from Balnabual, Dalcross, and £735 for a 635kg Simmental cross heifer from Bogroy Farm, Tore.

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## SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES THE WAY FORWARD - A TWO DAY CONFERENCE

13th & 14th November 2010 Lochgilphead High School Joint Campus DAY 1 Community Resilience routes to sustainable growth. Chaired by Ken Macdonald (BBC Scotland) DAY 2 Route To Market generating income through renewable energy. Chaired by Jim Mather MSP (Minister for Enterprise Energy & Tourism) Numbers Are Limited-Please Book Early Free Entry- Lunch & All Refreshments Provided To book a place - contact Neil Donaldson on 01880 812504 or Email biggreentart@btinternet.com

## DINGWALL Dingwall and Highland Marts

Bullocks up to 200kg - 1 Obbe Road, Leverburgh, £300, 180.7p; 201-250kg - 6 Garyward, Isle of Lewis, £415, 182.8p; 251-300kg - Kildun, £580, Wester Lochend Farm, Loch Flemington, 207.1p; 301-350kg - Park Farm, Strathpeffer, £690, Achenoul Farms, 207.8p; 351-400kg - Kildun, £740, Muirends Croft, Munloch, 202.8p; 401-450kg - Carrol Farm, Brora, £760, 185.4p; 451-500kg - Wester Craiglands, Fortrose, £770, 169.2p; 501-550kg - Teandalloch, Beauty, £750, 142.9p;

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## PORTREE Dingwall and Highland Marts

Rams: Cheviot: The Gate, Shieldaig, £380, £350; 13 Flodrigary and The Gate, £320; Blackface: 13 Peinchorran, £350; Newton of Crathie, Balalair, £320; Moy Mains, Tomatin, and 13 Peinchorran, £300; Suffolk: Newton of Crathie, £300; Texel: Newton of Crathie, £280.

**Police files**

A SOLAR panel road sign on the eastbound verge side of the A830 at Kinlochheil has been removed by unknown means sometime between April and Wednesday October 6.

A turbine connected to the panel, which is four feet by two feet in size, has also been removed.

□□□

A RENAULT Scenic parked in the car park at Olwyn Courtyard, Caol, was scratched with a key sometime between 7pm on Friday October 15 and 12 noon on Saturday October 16. The scratch measures approximately 1.5 feet.

□□□

ANYONE with knowledge of these incidents is asked to contact Fort William Police Station on 01397 702361 or the confidential line on 01397 702000.

**Gaelic fun at Linicleit School**

SECONDARY school pupils will have the chance to attend a variety of fun workshops being held for the first time in Linicleit School tomorrow (Friday) from 4pm to 8pm and Saturday from 10am to 6pm.

Bagpipes, fiddle, Gàidhlig song, photography and street dance all feature in the programme, which will be delivered in Gaelic.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig is funding the project, which involves development officers from Fèisean nan Gàidheal, Comunn na Gàidhlig and South Uist Youth Development group.



**Youngsters cook up a treat at holiday club**

Twenty school children were kept entertained during the October holidays by the Lochaber Rural Complex's Holiday Club. The theme of the club, which ran all last week, was Hallowe'en and Christmas. Pictured is Anna Gray of Corpach learning how to make a knickerbocker glory. Organiser Isobel Campbell said: 'The children were super, they had a whale of a time.'

**Couple targeted in phone lottery scam**

A KINLOCHLEVEN couple have narrowly avoided falling victim to a lottery scam.

Pensioners June and Anthony McMillan received a letter from Spain last week informing them they had won £715,810 in the 'Euro Millions Lottery International Program'.

A man calling himself Julio Palacios phoned the couple on Friday morning to tell them he would deliver their cheque on

Monday morning. The man called back on Monday and told the couple they had to pay a £1,162 fee before they could get their winnings. June told *The Oban Times*: 'When we got the first call he told me I was a genuine winner. I asked if it was a con and he said no. When he asked for money I told him we were pensioners and we couldn't afford to pay £1,162. So he asked for £500 instead. I said no and he hung up.'

**Loganair flies high between Stornoway and Benbecula**

WESTERN Isles Council has named Loganair as the long-term operator of the inter-island service between Stornoway and Benbecula.

The airline, a Flybe franchise carrier, took over the route on an interim basis at the end of March following the collapse of previous operator Highland Airways. Loganair has been awarded the contract until March 2013 subject to the council finalising its budget for 2011/12.

**Skye Lines**

A SKYE man has nearly completed his fund-raising challenge to swim across every loch in Sleat.

Sleat Community Trust director Duncan MacInnes swam the first of the 60 lochs in early April and has so far raised more than £3,000 for the trust. He has just one loch left to swim - Loch Gauscavaig - which he plans to swim before the end of the month.

Duncan said: 'It has been an amazing experience and a lot of hard work.'

'I almost gave up towards the end of September, when I still had more than 20 lochs to complete, but the spell of good weather and a severe talking-to from my motivational trainer, whom I am married to, means we have got them all done.'

The funds will go towards making improvements to the post office, petrol station and garage at Armadale.

□□□

AN ISLE of Skye soldier has won an Army netball tournament in Germany and will now try to qualify for the overall army team.

Private Becky Kane, aged 22, helped her Germany-based unit 1 Logistics Support Regiment (ILSR) win the British Army Germany inter unit netball championship. The former Portree High School student, who joined the Army in 2007 and is likely to deploy to Afghanistan next year, will now go on to represent ILSR in the overall Army Championships.

If successful, Becky may be selected to play for the Army in a variety of international military tournaments. Becky, from Dunvegan, said: 'I'm



**Becky Kane: netball winner.**

really happy that we won. I have only been playing netball for six months so to have won this competition is great.

'It's good to be going to the Army Championships - netball is something I really enjoy and something I would like to take further.'

□□□

THE SCOTTISH Parliament's economy, energy and tourism committee is travelling to Skye and Lochalsh next week as part of its inquiry into Scotland's enterprise network.

The committee will gather at Sabhal Mor Ostaig for a formal session on Monday before meeting representatives of Sleat Community Trust the following morning.

The committee will visit Ardvasar filling station and Post Office, both run by the trust, before heading to Rag, Tag 'n' Textile in Balmacara, a social enterprise which works with people who are recovering from mental health problems.

Committee convener Iain Smith said the trip would inform members on what type of support local businesses and organisations are receiving from the country's enterprise network, including Highlands and Islands Enterprise. 'We have heard anecdotal evidence that the service provided by the Scotland's enterprise network is inconsistent,' he said. 'Some of the written evidence submitted to the committee indicates that not all organisations feel well-served.'

The report will be published next year and will help form a blueprint for promoting economic growth for the administration that forms after the Holyrood elections next May.

**Slipway work still on track**

More damage than first thought discovered at Corran Ferry

THE DISCOVERY of more extensive damage to the Nether Lochaber slipway at the Corran Ferry should not lead to delays in completing repair works on time, according to Highland Council.

Contractors George Leslie Ltd uncovered 'significant voids' below the slipway deck much larger than anticipated and erosion at the end of the slipway also extends further underneath than previous investigations showed.

Highland Council head of transport and infrastructure Sam MacNaughton told *The Oban Times* more concrete was required to fill in the giant holes - but the project remained 'on track'.

He said on Monday: 'I would hope that we would complete the work by the week of December 13-17.'

'As long as the contractor stays on plan we will make that and the slipway will be back in operation - although there will have to be

reinstatement works. There have been very few complaints and we have been very lucky with the weather, so far at least. Everything is going to plan.'

Councillor Bren Gormley said: 'With this sort of structural project you have to expect that once you get inside things you will get surprises.'

Meanwhile, additional floodlighting has been installed on the barge to allow present operating hours of 8am to 6pm to be extended after the clocks go back.

From Monday, providing floodlighting trials satisfy the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, the ferry will run from 7am to 7pm for the remainder of the commuter period. The public are advised to monitor the council web site and the message signs at the ferry for up-to-date information. The weight limit of three tonnes is still being examined.



**Some of the youngsters who enjoyed the first Lochaber Teenage Fèis. 10\_f44feis01**

**First Lochaber Teenage Fèis a hit with youngsters**

THE FIRST Lochaber Teenage Fèis for young people from S2 upwards was held at Lochyend Primary School at the weekend.

Classes in fiddle, guitar, accordion, Gaelic song, keyboard, clarsach and piping were offered over Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Workshops in PA use, recording, composing and group work also featured. The Lochaber Fèisean lined up

Rachel Walker, Sileas Sinclair, Iain MacFarlane, Allan Henderson, Ingrid Henderson and Finlay Wells as tutors.

Lochaber Fèisean committee member Deirdre MacDonald told *The Oban Times*: 'It's gone really well, the kids all seemed to be enjoying themselves. We've got quite a small number so the classes are small and quality of tuition has been really good.'

**James of the Glen memorial weekend**

Gaels' new cultural event

LOCHABER Gaels have organised a new cultural event to commemorate one of the best-known victims of Hanoverian repression in the years after Culloden.

**EXCLUSIVE**

REPORT by

STEPHEN NORRIS

snorris@obantimes.co.uk

The Seumas a Ghlinne (James of the Glens) Memorial Weekend on November 6-7 will honour James Stewart of Acharn, who was convicted and hanged - wrongly according to most local opinion at the time - for the murder of a British Government agent.

The event will feature traditional music from Highland and Irish artists, an Argyllshire Gaelic afternoon and a memorial ceremony at the Cnap a' Chaolais cairn in South Ballachulish, which was erected in James' memory.

Event organiser, full time musician and Gaelic singer Griogair Labhruidh (Gregor Lawrie), who is from Ballachulish, told *The Oban Times* he hoped the gathering would become an annual affair. We just want to keep the language and the culture alive, but the weekend is more in memory of Seamus a' Ghlinne,' said Mr Lawrie. 'They used to celebrate Seamus annually in Ballachulish - he was a kind of local hero here at one time. Ballachulish was completely Gaelic speaking until just after World War One.'

Artists appearing include Griogair himself, Gaelic singer and 2007 Mod convener Charlie MacColl, piper and scholar Allan MacDonald, fiddler Ewan Henderson and, from Ireland, Doimhic MacGillivray, Aidan O'Donnell and Silé Denvir. The event is based at the Loch Leven Hotel over both days.

James of the Glens was hanged on November 8 1752 for the murder of Government-appointed factor Colin Roy Campbell of Glenure, known as 'The Red Fox', despite having had no direct part in the assassination.

The factor was busy evicting Jacobite Stewart clanspeople from their lands declared forfeit following the 1745 Rising when he was shot in the back by a sniper in the wood of Lettermore on May 14 1752.

At the subsequent 'Appin Murder' trial, presiding judge - Archibald Campbell, third Duke of Argyll and Chief of Clan Campbell - found James guilty by association, ordering him to be hanged from a gibbet near the south end of the present Ballachulish Bridge.

James died protesting his innocence and recited the 35th Psalm mounting the scaffold: 'False witnesses did rise up. They laid to my charge things that I knew not.'

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**Lochaber Credit Union looks to build membership**

LOCHABER Credit Union (LCU) is looking to build on a gradual increase in membership as Christmas approaches.

The union has added 23 adult and 23 junior members since January, the majority savers rather than borrowers.

LCU office manager Jane MacLean told *The Oban Times* membership now stands at 670.

She said: 'There has been a steady rise in numbers, but not a big leap so far this year. It needs to go a bit faster for us to sustain the service.'

'There has been a decline in the number of loans over the last four years. I think folk are saying "This is what I've got" and they don't want to risk it. They are withdrawing their savings rather than taking on a loan.'

**Pensioners' wood stolen**

A PILE of wood which was to be used to keep pensioners in Glencoe warm during winter has been stolen.

People in Glencoe had collected the wood from local forests, which was to be distributed amongst the elderly population of the village at Christmas to be used for heating.

The pile was being stored on the side of the B863 road near the mouth of the River Coe. Police say the wood was taken sometime during the night of Saturday October 16.

Got a story for **The Oban Times**? Call our reporters on 01397 703003.

# Man and his dog escape death after falling into freezing loch

A LOCHABER man escaped with his life after he and his pet dog fell into freezing Loch Linnhe from a canoe on Tuesday evening.

Loch Linnhe Caravan Park worker Colin Wood, aged 38, was out paddling off Corpach with his lurcher Finnegan beside him when the open Canadian canoe began shipping water as night fell.

The boat overturned, pitching man and dog into the bone-chilling sea loch. Mr

REPORT by  
STEPHEN NORRIS  
snorris@obantimes.co.uk

Wood's cries were heard at around 8.40pm and police, Fort William Coastguard and Oban Lifeboat were scrambled. Mr Wood managed to cling on to his canoe until the tide carried him ashore at Erracht Drive, Caol, where rescuers helped him on to dry land. Mr Wood, who had been two-

and-a-half hours in the water, was taken to hospital suffering from hypothermia and was later discharged.

Finnegan, meanwhile, had made it to Eilean nan Croabh, an island connected to ClydeBoyd port by a bridge.

Mr Wood's wife Claire, and Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals officer and Coastguard member Dawna Connolly coaxed the dog across the bridge to the harbour area. Finnegan

was uninjured. Ms Connolly told *The Oban Times*: 'Colin had several layers of clothing on, which helped protect him from the cold. He did have a lifejacket on, but he was not suitably dressed for going into the water. He was very cold and just exhausted. I phoned him yesterday and he is fine.'

'He's a bit stiff and sore, but happy to be home. They say after 15 minutes you begin to feel the cold, but Colin's quite

a big guy and quite fit so that probably helped him.' Mr Wood said: 'I'd just like to thank the person who heard me on the shore and the Coastguard as well. It was pretty cold out there.'

Patrick MacLean of Oban Lifeboat told *The Oban Times*: 'The guy was very lucky to survive.'

The lifeboat returned to station when alerted en route that Mr Wood had been rescued.



## Ballachulish pupil Tommy on special assignment to Nepal children's home

Ballachulish Primary School P6 pupil Tammy Cooper is on special assignment this month - a visit to a children's home in Pokhara, Nepal. The house takes in street children from the age of 18 months to 18 years and gives the needy kids a home and an education. Ballachulish pupils, led by the eco committee, raised money for Tammy to take out as a donation from Ballachulish Primary School. Aela MacPhee and the committee are pictured above handing over £200 to Tammy before her departure earlier this month. Tammy will present a report on her trip when she returns.

## New homes handed over to housing association

A NEW 11-house development for Skye and Lochalsh Housing Association (SLHA) has been officially handed over by contractors UBC Ltd.

The new homes at Rathad a Chidhe near the Armadale ferry terminal in Sleat have already attracted plaudits for the quality of their design and the standard of workmanship.

Six houses have been sold on a shared equity basis and five are for affordable rental.

To mark the occasion, SLHA chairman Ian MacLean, Sleat Community Council chairman Roddy Murray and Isabel Moore from Sleat, who has served on the housing association's management committee for more than 27 years, planted a tree in the grounds.

Speaking at the handover, Mr MacLean said: 'This project would not have been possible without the co-operation and assistance of a



Ian MacLean, Isabel Moore of SLHA and Roddy Murray, chairman of Sleat Community Council, plant a tree to mark the opening of the new development.

large number of individuals and organisations and we thank them all. The designers and the contractors are to be congratulated for their excellent work which has

resulted in a very special development. I also want to record our thanks to the Scottish Government housing investment division for their financial and other support and our colleagues at The Highland Council and in other agencies for their assistance in achieving this successful outcome.'

Mr Murray said: 'We are delighted that the housing association have provided this excellent new development and we welcome all of the new residents to their new homes.'

Housing and Communities Minister Alex Neil said: 'This development is great news for local people looking for low cost homes to rent or buy.'

The Scottish Government provided over £1.2 million, more than half the cost, to build the homes and is investing more than £36 million in the Highlands and Islands this year for affordable housing.

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The eight artists with their 'Map of the Land'. 10\_f44art01

## Kilchuimen Academy pupils map their land

A GROUP of pupils from Kilchuimen Academy have created a map of the Fort Augustus area using screen-printing, and their finished work is now on display in Inverness.

Eight S2 students took part in the 'Mapping the Land' project, which gave them the opportunity to look at what makes their local area special and to create artwork inspired by maps from the past

and present. Duror artist Katy Spong helped the pupils with their project.

Each child was asked to hand draw a map of their route to school, but in an effort to emulate maps of the past, they were told to include stories and interesting pieces of information.

They travelled to Highland Print Studio in Inverness where their maps were transferred to sheets

of glass through the process of screen-printing.

Katy then put them together to form a single map of the Fort Augustus area.

The project involved five other schools, including Lochaber High School.

The finished works are currently on show in Eden Court and will go on display in Lochaber High School from Monday.

## Superfast broadband gets major cash boost

A PROGRAMME to extend superfast broadband coverage across the Highlands and Islands has received a boost after Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) secured major funding from the UK Government.

The cash, 'upwards of £10 million' according to HIE telecommunications development manager Angela Rutherford, means HIE can now commission a preferred bidder to deliver the £25million-plus project. She told *The Oban Times*: 'Over

the next two or three weeks we will know more, but we have no reason to think it won't be close to £10million. If that's the case, it will make a significant difference to the region. We are looking at completing this within two and a half years. Within a month to six weeks we will be able to publish a list of locations for the project.'

HIE chief executive Alex Paterson added: 'We worked hard to put together a strong bid which the Scottish Government could take forward with confidence.

Just like good transport and telecommunications systems, it's an enabling technology which stands to benefit businesses and communities in hard-to-reach locations even more than those in major cities. Our ultimate aim is for all parts of the Highlands and Islands to be able to benefit. This news brings that goal a big step closer.'

Other funding partners could include HIE, telecoms providers and the European Regional Development Fund.

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

### PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays) at the AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, FULTON HOUSE, GORDON SQUARE, FORT WILLIAM, PH33 6XY; online at [www.highland.gov.uk](http://www.highland.gov.uk) and, where given, the alternative location(s).

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

Reference Number	Development Address	Proposal Description	Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments
10/03783/FUL	Land North of Kyles Resipole Stronham Acharade	Erection of house	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/03863/PIP	Land North of Lago House Lago Glenborrodale Acharade	Erection of 2 houses (renewal of 05/00429/OUTLO)	Acharade Service Point (14 days)
10/03864/FUL	Land North of Curling Pond Nevis Bridge Glen Nevis Fort William	Installation of carved stones/boulders and landscaping works	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/04043/FUL	Glenmollie Neptune Way Bonavie Fort William	Proposed internal alterations and bay window extension	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/04183/FUL	Land 130m West of Catriona Rosheen Glenlig	Erection of house (amendment to 10/02245/FUL)	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/04191/FUL	Land 450m SW of West Lodge Rosheen Glenlig	Rock extraction	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/04194/FUL	Land 350m South West of Bothan Nan Creag Rosheen Glenlig	Rock extraction	Lochaber Area Planning & Building Standards Office (14 days)
10/04204/FUL	170m NE of Tigh Na Loin Back of Kappoch Arisaig	Erection of house	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)
10/04232/FUL	18 Loch Nevis Terrace Mallaig	Demolition of existing house (retrospective) and erection of new house (amendment to 09/00396/FULLO)	Mallaig Service Point (14 days)

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS  
ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX  
Email: [eplanning@highland.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk)

**Proposed Assignment of a Croft**  
Anthony Oliver, residing at Cleadale, Campbell Road, Tomonie, Fort William, PH33 7PX, is applying to the Crofters Commission for consent to assign the tenancy of the croft at 9 Cleadale, Small Isles, Register Number 13525, Agricultural Code Number 456/0013, to James Robert Ardagh (otherwise Jamie Ardagh), residing at The Garden House, Middleton Manor, Lewes Road, Westmeston, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 8RL. If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township or if the Commission consider that you have a direct interest in this application, you may submit comments on the proposal in writing or other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW (e-mail: [info@crofterscommission.org.uk](mailto:info@crofterscommission.org.uk)) by 26th November 2010. Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information enquiry. Frivolous, vexatious or unreasonable comments cannot be accepted.

**crofters commission**  
ughdarras nan croitearan

**APPLICATIONS TO CREATE A NEW CROFT**  
Rio Tinto Alcan Highland Estates, owner of Railway Croft, Kilmallie is applying to create a new croft. If you have any objection to the proposal, you may submit representations in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Castle Wynd, Inverness IV2 3EQ by 15 November 2010 quoting 5.01.27833. Please specify your interest in the application and your reasons for objecting. A copy of any representations made will be forwarded to the applicant.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us @ [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk)

### PLANNING

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX by the 18/11/2010

- Ref No: 10/01684/PP  
Applicant: David Livingstone  
Proposal: Erection of rear extension to dwellinghouse  
Site Address: Falite Shore Street Bowmore Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA43 7LB  
Location of Plans: Bowmore Area Office Isle of Islay
- Ref No: 10/01684/PP  
Applicant: David Livingstone  
Proposal: Erection of rear extension to dwellinghouse  
Site Address: Falite Shore Street Bowmore Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA43 7LB  
Location of Plans: Bowmore Area Office Isle of Islay
- Ref No: 10/01684/PP  
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Location of Plans: Bowmore Area Office Isle of Islay
- Ref No: 10/01684/PP  
Applicant: David Livingstone  
Proposal: Erection of rear extension to dwellinghouse  
Site Address: Falite Shore Street Bowmore Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA43 7LB  
Location of Plans: Bowmore Area Office Isle of Islay

Argyll and Bute Council maintain a Register of planning applications which can be viewed between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST. An extant list of planning applications can be viewed on the Councils website [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk).

A weekly list of applications can be viewed at Planning and Regulatory Services, Dalriada House, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8ST and Argyll and Bute Council Libraries.

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR, at the location detailed below and by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR within 21 days of the appearance of this notice. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

#### SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION PLANS

- Ref No: 10/01662/PP  
Applicant: Royal National Lifeboat Institution  
Proposal: Relocation of fuel tank to permanent site and installation of projecting platform access ladder  
Site Address: Port Askaig Pier Port Askaig Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA46 7RB  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Port Askaig
- Ref No: 10/01713/PP  
Applicant: Ms Julia Watson  
Proposal: Convert redundant bothy to form ancillary accommodation to main house  
Site Address: 5 Argyll Terrace Tobermory Isle Of Mull Argyll And Bute PA75 6PB  
Location of Plans: Tobermory Area Office
- Ref No: 10/01729/PP  
Applicant: Elean Eisdale  
Proposal: Installation of solar PV panels and air source heat pump  
Site Address: Easdale Island Community Hall Easdale Island Oban Argyll And Bute PA34 4TB  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Port Charlotte

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Take notice that the applications in the following schedule may be inspected during normal office hours at 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX, at the location detailed below and by logging on to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Anyone wishing to make representations should do so in writing to 67/69 Chalmers Street Ardrishaig PA30 8DX within 21 days of the appearance of this notice. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence.

#### SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION PLANS

- Ref No: 10/01690/PP  
Applicant: Mrs Anne Wylie  
Proposal: Installation of replacement windows  
Site Address: Dunyvaig Main Street Port Charlotte Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA48 7TY  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Port Charlotte
- Ref No: 10/01701/LIB  
Applicant: Mrs Anne Wylie  
Proposal: Installation of replacement windows  
Site Address: Dunyvaig Main Street Port Charlotte Isle Of Islay Argyll And Bute PA48 7TY  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Port Charlotte

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT

Applications for planning permission listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR and the location detailed below between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and by logging to the Council's website at [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk) and clicking on Online Planning Applications. Written comments for the following list of applications may be made to Planning and Regulatory Services Lorn House Albany Street Oban PA34 4AR by the 18/11/2010

- Ref No: 10/01416/PP  
Applicant: TSL Contractors Ltd  
Proposal: Erection of Factory Building (Class 5) and Office Building (Class 4).  
Site address: TSL Contractors Ltd Craignure Isle Of Mull Argyll and Bute PA65 6AY  
Location of Plans: Sub Post Office Craignure
- Ref No: 10/01430/PP  
Applicant: Mr Mark Blue  
Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension.  
Site Address: 10 Castle Road Dumbeg Oban Argyll And Bute PA37 1QH  
Location of Plans: Oban Area Office

### Ballrachd Bòrd Stiùiridh Chomunn na Gàidhlig

Tha Comunn na Gàidhlig a' sireadh dà bhall airson a' Bhòrd Stiùiridh bho Foghar 2010. Tha sinn a' sireadh iarrtasan bho neach sam bith aig a bheil ùidh pàirt a ghabhail ann an obair Chomunn na Gàidhlig mar bhall den Bhòrd Stiùiridh. Tha sinn gu sònraichte a' sireadh feadhainn a tha eòlach air obair gnìomhachas agus/neo obair òigridh. Tha e an urra ris a' Bhòrd poileasaidhean, ionmhachas agus luchd obrach ChnG a stiùireadh agus thathar an dùil gum bidh mu 6 coinneamhan gan cumail sa bhliadhna.

Cha bhith tuarastal an lùib na h-obrach seo, ged a bhithas cosgaisean siubhail agus àite-fuirich air am pàigheadh airson a bhith a' frithealadh nan coinneamhan. Ged is ann an Inbhir Nis a bhios a' mhòr chuid de choinneamhan, tha e comasach do bhuill pàirt a ghabhail ann an coinneamhan le bhith a' cleachdadh fòn/bhideo.

Ma tha ùidh agaibh anns an obair seo, gheibh sibh tuilleadh fiosrachadh bho: Dòmhnall MacNèill, Ceannard, Comunn na Gàidhlig, 5 Caolshràid Mhicheil, Inbhir Nis, IV2 3HQ. Àireamh Fòn: 01463 234138; Post-d: [domhnallmacneill@cnag.org.uk](mailto:domhnallmacneill@cnag.org.uk)

Ceann-là mu dheireadh airson iarrtas: 12 Samhain 2010.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**  
**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**  
**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Caledonian MacBrayne**  
Hèilidhnan & Clìde Ferries

### MALLAIG LINKSPAN - TEMPORARY CLOSURE TO VEHICLES

1600 on 6 November 2010 for 7 days

Due to essential maintenance being carried out on the linkspan at Mallaig this facility will be closed to vehicular traffic from 1600 on Saturday 6 November for a period of approximately seven days.

A passenger only service will operate between Mallaig and Armadale as per the published timetable.

A passenger only service will operate between Mallaig and the Small Isles as per the published timetable with vehicular access available to and from Armadale if required.

For further information customers should contact  
Mallaig office 01687 462403 (option 2) or  
Armadale office 01471 844248 (option 2)

Caledonian MacBrayne and CalMac are trading names of CalMac Ferries Ltd.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**  
**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**  
**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

### Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008

#### Planning Application Pre-Application Consultation

Peel Energy Limited is conducting pre-application consultation on the following development proposal:

Corpach Biomass Energy Plant, a 20MW renewable electricity plant to be fuelled with virgin timber including forestry and forest industry residues at Corpach Harbour, Annat Point, Corpach, Fort William PH33 7NN

Further information can be obtained from Peel Energy Limited, Peel Dome, The Trafford Centre, Manchester M17 8PL, by telephone during office hours 9.00 – 17.00 Monday – Friday on 0161 629 8200, by e-mailing [energy@peel.co.uk](mailto:energy@peel.co.uk) and on-line at [www.peelenergy.co.uk/cebp](http://www.peelenergy.co.uk/cebp)

Public exhibitions will be held as follows:

- Monday 8 November from 4.00pm – 9.00pm at Treslaig Hall, Treslaig, Fort William PH33 7AJ
- Tuesday 9 November from 1.00pm – 9.00pm at The Moorings Hotel, Banavie, Fort William PH33 7LY

Anyone wishing to comment on the proposal should do so by writing to Peel Energy Limited, Peel Dome, The Trafford Centre, Manchester, M17 8PL by 30 November 2010.

PLEASE NOTE – No application has been submitted to the Highland Council in relation to this proposal. Any comments made to the prospective applicant at this time are not representations to the Council and would not be considered as part of any future application. If the prospective applicant subsequently submits a formal application for planning permission there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the Council.

### Dunbartonshire and Argyll and Bute Valuation Joint Board

#### ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2009/10

#### Regulation 6(2) Local Authority Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1985

Notice is hereby given that copies of the certified Abstract of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010 together with the Auditor's Report thereon have been deposited in the offices of the Treasurer, Council Offices, Garshake Road, Dumbarton. It may be inspected free of charge from 9.15a.m. to 1.00p.m. and 2.00p.m. to 4.00p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays. Any person who is unable to attend at the times stated should make a written application to the Treasurer and alternative arrangements will be made.

Copies of the Abstract of Accounts can be purchased at a cost of £10.00 per copy.

Joyce White, Treasurer, Council Offices, Garshake Road, DUMBARTON, G82 3PU.

**crofters commission**  
ughdarras nan croitearan

Christopher W Nisbet has applied to decroft part of the croft at Upper Kilchattan, Colonsay extending to 0.198 ha for the purpose of providing sites for 2 dwelling houses. Ref: 4.86.27828

Gerald McIntyre has applied to decroft part of the croft at Pt 45/46 Banavie, Kilmallie extending to 0.292 ha for the purpose of providing a site for a dwellinghouse. Ref: 4.86.27997

Mrs Ann M A MacKintosh has applied to decroft part of the croft at 1 & 26 Inveroy, Kilmorivag extending to 0.120 ha being the site of an existing dwellinghouse. Ref: 4.86.27996

If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township you may submit comments on the proposals in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofterscommission.org.uk, by 15 November 2010 quoting the above case number.

Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information inquiry.

**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**  
**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**

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**Oban Times PUBLIC NOTICES**  
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**NHS SCOTLAND**

# FU

don't let the bug bite!

### For patients of the Lorn Medical Centre We are running drop in clinics in the Church of Scotland Centre, Glencruitten Road, Oban on

<b>Wed 3 November</b>	<b>Wed 17 November</b>
<b>Wed 10 November</b>	<b>Wed 24 November</b>

**from 9.30am - 1.00pm**

Please come along to the Clinic if you are aged 65 or over or suffer from lung or heart problems, diabetes, kidney or liver disease, low immunity due to treatments, or are a carer for a disabled or elderly person.

**crofters commission**  
ughdarras nan croitearan

Ms Ann Scott has applied to decroft the whole croft at 38 Kilchoan Ardnamurchan & Sunart extending to 0.594 ha. Ref: 4.87.27903

If you are a crofter, shareholder or owner of a croft in the township you may submit comments in writing or some other permanent form to the Crofters Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW or info@crofterscommission.org.uk, by 15 November 2010 quoting the above case number.

If you are interested in obtaining the tenancy of this croft, should it become available, please make your interest known to the Crofters Commission at the above address by the date shown above.

Please note that any comments you provide are part of an open process and will be made available to interested parties. Your comments would also be released under a Freedom of Information inquiry.

**Argyll Voluntary Action**  
(regd Charity no.29947)

### Is holding it's AGM

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF TIME  
26th November 2010 at 2.30pm  
Nicoll Hall, Inveraray

### GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

A & C.A MacLennan trading as MacLennan Motors Ltd of Pierhead, Scarinish, Isle of Tiree, Argyll PA77 6UH is applying for licence to use Pierhead, Scarinish, Isle of Tiree, Argyll PA77 6UH as an operating centre for 8 goods vehicles and 4 trailers and to use 15b Crannog Lane, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban Argyll PA34 4HB as an operating centre for 2 goods vehicles and 2 trailers. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at VOSA, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

If you have a lively personality, enthusiasm and enjoy meeting people, **YOU MAY BE THE PERSON WE WANT...**



**THE OBAN TIMES IS RECRUITING ADVERTISING SALES EXECUTIVES**

**SALARY £16,000 - £20,000 per annum (dependent on previous sales experience)**

Whilst we have been successful during this campaign in recruiting new members to join our advertising sales team - we still need more to further develop, expand and strengthen the potential of our Oban based team.

The successful applicants will be selling advertising for a range of interesting and attractive products to a wide variety of organisations and businesses. A driving licence is essential as you may not necessarily be office based but could have the opportunity to travel throughout Argyll and surrounding area in one of our company vehicles.

Excellent communication skills, the desire to be successful, imagination and a professional approach are imperative.

Sales experience would be preferred but a good knowledge and awareness of the business market place in Argyll and surrounding area are equally important. Induction and training will be provided as required.

In addition to a basic salary of £16,000 - £20,000 (dependent on previous sales experience), we offer attractive commission, bonus potential, group personal pension plan, life and medical insurance.

If you think you would enjoy and relish this opportunity... please email your C.V. and letter of application to: [ali@obantimes.co.uk](mailto:ali@obantimes.co.uk)

**WYVEX MEDIA www.obantimes.co.uk**

**The Scottish Salmon Company**  
Companaidh Bhradan na h-Alba



**The Scottish Salmon Company is a leading producer of high quality Scottish salmon. We are committed to high standards of animal welfare, sustainable operations and promoting a responsible environmental policy.**

We are currently recruiting for a:

**Environmental Data Coordinator EDC/CW/10/C1**  
(Fixed term contract: 18 months - Salary dependant on experience, based on 40 hour week)

Located within our Cairndow Office in Argyll or at our office facility based at Strome in the Lochcarron area.

The ideal candidate will be an enthusiastic, self motivated individual with excellent time management and communication skills (written and oral). You must be able to work well under pressure, independently and within a variety of teams within the company. You will have experience in a data entry environment, responsible for the collection and analysing of data such as hydro-graphic surveys, with the requirement of producing general environmental reporting in relation to environmental indicators and monthly reports, identification of projects and initiatives required to drive environmental improvements forward. Provide advice and best practices in the management assessment and documentation of environmental data.

Prior experience of using mapping tools within ArcGIS (ESRI) packages is essential where it is a must to have good working knowledge of using Microsoft office software, including good presentation and analytical skills with proficiency in project management. The ability to assist our existing team to provide support for application processes and information thus further assisting with development of the Company. Ideally, the candidate will have knowledge of the aquaculture industry, experience with SeaZone and AutoDepomod modelling, as well as an understanding of current environmental legislation. Previous experience working with local authorities SEPA, SNH and other industry regulators would be advantageous.

A full, clean driving licence is also essential for this position.

In return, the Company offers a comprehensive pay and benefits package.

For an application form and job description, please contact:  
HR Department,  
The Scottish Salmon Company Ltd., Ardkinglas, Cairndow, Argyll, PA26 8BH  
Tel: 01499 600 435  
E-mail: [cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com](mailto:cairndowhr@scottishsalmon.com)  
Visit our website at [www.scottishsalmon.com](http://www.scottishsalmon.com)

**ACHA**  
Argyll community housing association

**ACHA - Putting Tenants First.**  
We are on target to create homes and places across Argyll & Bute where people want to live. Can you help us achieve that vision?

**Property Services Officer**  
Lochgilthead  
Salary Grade 5 (£26,179 - £29,088) **35 hours per week**

The Association is seeking to recruit a highly motivated individual to assist in delivering a high quality Property and Estate Management and Maintenance service to its tenants in the Mid Argyll area. Candidates should hold an HNC in Housing Maintenance or a relevant technical skill; preferably Electrical (17th edition) or Gas Safe Registered, along with a full driving licence.

Full details of the duties of the post and a person specification can be obtained on our website at [www.acha.co.uk](http://www.acha.co.uk); by contacting the HR & Corporate Services Department, 63/65 Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig, PA30 8DX, Tel No 01546 604095 or by emailing [recruitment@acha.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@acha.co.uk)

Closing Date: 12 noon on Friday 19th November 2010  
Interviews for these posts will be held on Monday 29th November 2010.

ACHA is committed to being an equal opportunities employer. We value diversity in our workforce and welcome applications from all sectors of the community.

**North Argyll House**  
Care home for the elderly

**DEPUTY MANAGER**

We are looking for applicants with suitable qualifications and experience in Residential or Nursing Care to join our team in providing high quality care that meets the needs of 26 individual service users.

Full Time permanent position.  
Salary P.A. £22,737-£23,396.61 dependent on qualifications.  
Company pension scheme.

For an application pack please contact  
Morag A Telfer, North Argyll House, Bealach An Righ, Oban, PA34 5TG, Telephone: 01631 562168  
Closing Date - Monday 15th of November  
This post is subject to an enhanced disclosure check

**Scottish Sea Farms**

Scottish Sea Farms, the UK's leading producer of farmed Atlantic salmon, is looking to recruit a skilled, versatile, engineer to lead its maintenance engineering team within its marine farming operations throughout the West Coast of Scotland.

**ENGINEERING TEAM LEADER**  
(Barcaldine, Oban)

The ideal candidate will have a recognised qualification in mechanical engineering with a wide range of experience in the repair and maintenance of small engines and plant, hydraulics, fork lift trucks and lifting gear. Applicants must also be able to demonstrate competences in planned maintenance programmes and record keeping, cost-effective spares procurement and stock control. In addition, relevant marine engineering experience of workboats and their coding requirements would be a distinct advantage.

As team leader, good communication and interaction with other team members is essential. We expect the successful applicant to be a self starter, highly motivated and with a positive attitude. It is essential that the Team Leader "walks the talk" and ensures that all tasks are completed in a professional manner with H&S requirements and good house-keeping practices underpinning all activities.

All applicants are required to have a full, clean drivers licence.

Application packs can be obtained from:  
**Claire Scott on 01786 445521 or email [claire.scott@scottishseafarms.com](mailto:claire.scott@scottishseafarms.com)**  
Closing Date: Friday 05 November 2010

**Scottish Sea Farms**

Scottish Sea Farms is the UK's leading producer of farmed Atlantic Salmon from its marine and freshwater sites throughout the West Coast and Northern Isles of Scotland. We are looking to recruit a skilled and adaptable person to join our environment team and help us meet our commitment to sustainable aquaculture development.

**ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST**  
(Scottish Operations)

Educated to degree level in a scientific or environmental discipline, candidates are expected to have experience in at least some aspects of Environmental Impact Assessment, the preparation of Environmental Statements and marine survey work. Familiarity with the regulatory regimes affecting aquaculture is desirable. Experience in hydrographic data collection, autoDEPOMOD modelling, digital mapping, scale drawing and visual impact assessment would be a distinct advantage.

The successful candidate will enjoy working as part of a team, but must also be capable of working without supervision and manage their own workload effectively. They also will be practical, spatially aware and computer literate with excellent oral and written communication skills.

The post is likely to be based in South Shian, by Oban but will require short periods working at other company sites; a full clean driving licence is therefore essential. A competitive salary and benefits package is offered.

To apply, please write enclosing an up-to-date CV to:  
**Russell Ferguson, Scottish Sea Farms Ltd., Laurel House, Laurelhill Business Park, Stirling, FK7 9JQ**  
The closing date for applications is Friday 05 November 2010

**We are currently looking for a part time Maintenance Assistant**



You will be responsible for the general maintenance of the buildings and equipment on site including painting, light plumbing and joinery as well as general site duties.

We are looking for someone who can provide the highest standards of service and enjoyment to our guests whilst maintaining the site and grounds to a high standard, so the following attributes are essential to be part of the SEALIFE Sanctuary team:

- A passion for serving others
- Well groomed personal appearance
- Friendly, outgoing personality
- Confidence and a real desire to interact with our visitors.
- Ability to work as part of a team
- A willingness to work hard and have fun at the same time.

To apply for the position please telephone Alastair Law or Donald MacGilvray on **01631 720 386**.

**Self Employed Home Credit Agents required in your area**

Mobile and access to a vehicle essential.

Typical commission generated equivalent to £10 per hour.

Call **Brian Docherty** on **01631 569994 or 07739592978**.

Alternatively visit [www.homecreditagents.com](http://www.homecreditagents.com) to apply online.

**Scottish Sea Farms**

Scottish Sea Farms is the UK's leading producer of farmed Atlantic salmon throughout the West Coast and Northern Isles of Scotland. Many of these Salmon are processed, for our customers, through our ultra-modern processing plant at South Shian, Oban. To maintain our highest standards of product quality, we are looking to recruit a:

**PROCESSING MICROBIOLOGIST**

Reporting to the Quality Manager, the Processing Microbiologist will maintain a comprehensive programme of microbiological monitoring of the Salmon Processing operations, to ensure we continue to meet the ever demanding requirements of our customers' raw material specifications. This will require continuous assessment of our in-house analytical methods, ensuring we are using the most cost effective as well as suitably sensitive and up to date methods in relation to existing and developing operations at the plant.

Candidates will be computer literate, have good communication skills, and have the ability to interpret and act on critical data. Preference will be given to those candidates with experience in microbiological techniques, but where necessary appropriate training can be provided for the right person.

The role is based on a 40 hour week with overtime, but will require some working to a flexible programme. If you are interested and confident that you can fulfil this role and wish to receive an application pack, then please apply to:

**Angela Hand on 01786 445521 or email [angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com](mailto:angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com)**  
Closing Date: Friday 12 November 2010

**Scottish Sea Farms**

**MARINE FARMING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**  
**DEDICATED WEEKEND STAFF**

Scottish Sea Farms is the UK's leading producer of premium quality Scottish salmon. Our business is extensive; based in Argyll, across the West coast and throughout the Northern Isles. We are trusted to supply Britain's most demanding retailers and need exceptional staff to build our business.

We wish to expand our existing team of dedicated weekend husbandry staff to compliment our skilled staff in the Oban area. You will enjoy working outdoors, be hardworking and keen to learn new skills. We will require applicants to commit to providing a minimum of 20 weekends per year worked in an agreed schedule (approx one weekend on and one weekend off). In return for your loyalty and hard work you will receive a fixed weekend payment of £125.

As this will be a long-term relationship, Scottish Sea Farms will provide you with formal training, including a 3 day "Assistant Boatman" course, which you must pass within the first 4 months of starting employment. This course will contain modules including basic boat handling, first aid and sea-survival. These skills will equip you to compete for a permanent position, should you wish.

If you would like further information, please contact our Personnel Department on 01786 445521 or email [angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com](mailto:angela.hand@scottishseafarms.com).

All applicants must hold a current UK Driving Licence  
Closing Date: Friday 12th November 2010

**Office Manager/Accounts Assistant**

Wylie & Bisset LLP are seeking an experienced Accounts Assistant to manage their Oban office.

Applicants should be capable of working on their own initiative and possess knowledge of Accounts production and VAT.

Salary negotiable.

Please send CV to The Staff Partner, Wylie & Bisset LLP, 168 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4TP

**51% of people turn to their local newspaper first when looking for a new job.**

The regional press is the best medium to use when looking for local jobs.

Source: Recruitment Choice, The Newspaper Society 2005

**LORI**  
...on the Green road to recycling  
**LORN & OBAN REUSE INITIATIVE LTD**

Charity no: SC040594 Company No: 354741

Post: **Project Manager**  
Based: Moleigh, Civic Amenity Centre, Oban  
Salary: £23,000  
Hours: 35hr week

Description: The Lorn & Oban Reuse Initiative (LORI) is a social enterprise that involves the management of a Lorn and Oban wide re-use, refurbish and recycling service with specific regard to household furniture and electricals. The enterprise also has the potential for developing a wider range of re-use/recycling of other household goods. Currently this extends to collection of bicycles for refurbishment and unused household paint.

For further information and application forms contact GRAB on 01546 604227 or 01631 569174 or [jean.kennedy@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:jean.kennedy@argyll-bute.gov.uk)

Closing date for applications is 1st November 2010

Interviews are planned for 8th or 9th November, if you are interested in this post you will need to make yourself available.

**Oban Times Oban Times Oban Times**  
**PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**CROSSROADS Caring for Carers NORTH ARGYLL A.G.M.**

15th November 2010, 7.00pm  
North Argyll Carers Centre, Albany Street, Oban  
**ALL VERY WELCOME**  
REFRESHMENTS AFTER THE MEETING

**Oban Times Oban Times**  
**PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Regional Press**  
closer to home

**COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949 APPLICATION FOR SINGLE MOORING: ASKNISH BAY, LOCH SHUNA**

Notice is hereby given that Leslie Marshall has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, in respect of a new mooring at the following location in Asknish Bay.

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Mooring	56 13.780N	05 33.013W
		WGS84

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at The Oban Library, 77 Albany Street, Oban PA34 4AL

Objections relating to safety of navigation, in respect of the application should be made in writing to:  
Gordon Hastie, The Scottish Government, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2G North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference: 25PC/2/5426

Leslie Marshall, Byes Cottage, 113 Station Road, Brize Norton

**COAST PROTECTION ACT 1949 NEW MOORING AT DUINE, LOCH CRAIGNISH**

Notice is hereby given that Iain Saunders has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under section 34 of the Coast Protection Act 1949, as amended by section 36 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1988, in respect of a new mooring in Loch Craignish at the following location:

Description	Latitude	Longitude
Mooring	56 09.880N	05 33.420W
		WGS84

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Ardfern Post Office.

Objections relating to safety of navigation in respect of the application should be made in writing to:  
Gordon Hastie, The Scottish Government, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2G North, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ within 28 days of the date of this notice quoting reference: 25PC/2/5429

Iain Saunders, Duine, Ardfern, Argyll

**S&S Services Subaru** **Tel: 01292 880080/880440** **www.sandsservices.co.uk**



Unlike other cars the unique layout of a boxer engine and permanent Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive affords a safer and more dynamic driving experience. Unlike next year, buy a new Subaru before the end of December 2010 and not only will you benefit from our unique Boxer engines, permanent Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive and a host of luxuries, but you'll also get the added satisfaction of beating the taxman and the 2.5% VAT increase.

**beat the 2.5% vat increase. call in or call us today.**

**Isuzu Rodeo Denver**  
Special edition  
**only £14,990 plus VAT**  
Our special edition comes as standard Isuzu Rodeo Denver plus A towbar with single electrics, an over-rail bedliner and rubbermats.



**MITSUBISHI L200 4X4**



Single Cab Pickup, load liner & towbar

**Tel: 07979091356**

**RENAULT LAGUNA 1.6 EXPRESSION**



02 plate, 69,000 miles, 6 CD changer, alloy wheels, good condition inside and out, MOT Jan 2011, tax Dec 2010

**Tel: 01546 602 831**

**£1500 o.n.o.**

**CUSTOMISED WILLERBY LEVEN 34 IN TYNDRUM**



Laminate floor, fire wall n hearth with pot belly stove, bed settee recliner chair, fab kitchen, sleeps 4. full length decking plus extras. Must be seen.

**Tel: 01567 829307**

**£3700 o.n.o.**

**NISSAN X-TRAIL AVENTURA DCI**



Black, estate, reg 16/10/07, 11 months MOT, 2 months Tax, new tyres, 22,095 miles, diesel, excellent condition.

**Tel: 01586 553770**

**£14,000**

**WANTED**

Toyota Hilux  
4 x 4 or 4 wheel drive, petrol or diesel, any condition, top prices paid.

**Telephone 01250 884306 or mobile 07885 203020**

**SUBARU IMPREZA 2.0LT SPORT**



N reg, 1996, Tax/MOT November 10

**Telephone: 01586 551813**

**£790 o.n.o. Quick sale**

**2 BERTH MONZA CARAVAN TOURER**



Tyndrum, first

**£250 takes it away buyer must collect.**

**Telephone: 01567 829307**

**£250**

**RENAULT SCENIC RX4 4 WHEEL DRIVE**



1.9 dci, 51 reg, 6 months MOT, 5 months tax, 4 new tyres, Full electrics, Alloy wheels, 2 owners since new, 76,000 miles, Twin sunroof, Leather interior, Good condition for year

**Telephone: 07861 465261**

**£2,250ono**

**MITSUBISHI DOUBLE CAB PICK UP**



1997, 2.5 turbo diesel, 110,000 miles, Taxed and MOT'd

**Tel: 01546 850200**

**£850ono**

**TOYOTA CELICA VVTI**



2003 (53 Reg), Limited Edition, 12 months MOT, Taxed, 4 Brand New Tyres, Just had full service, Beautiful car in very good condition

**Telephone: 07880 817766 Anytime 01866 822008 Evenings**

**£4,500**

**VW GOLF 2001(51)**



A stunning 5dr 1.9 SE TDI with tax and mot till Jan 2011 timing belt changed 2 weeks ago as a precaution really nice condition throughout 123000mils. first to view will buy.

**Telephone: 07788993809**

**£2495 secures**

**RENAULT TRAFIC CAMPERVAN**



2 berth, MOT- Sep 2011, Tax - Feb 2011, New Battery and Timing Belt Fitted, Low Mileage for year, Excellent runner. 4 Wheel Drive Optional. Can be viewed in Oban Area Over Weekend by Appointment, May Exchange/Part Exchange/Boat or Caravan

**Tel: 07796308866**

**£4500 o.n.o**

Oban Times DRIVE TIMES  
Oban Times DRIVE TIMES

**RENAULT MEGANE 1999**

For Spares or Repair, Long M.O.T

**Telephone: 01631 720 366/ 07833160565**

**OFFERS**

**VOLVO V70 S**



D5 (2002), 90,000 mls, MOT 1st March, 6 Months TAX, Tow Bar

**Tel: 01866 822 639**

**£4350**

**TOYOTA AVENSIS GS VVT-1**



1800cc, Petrol 52 Plate Built in Saf Nav, Climatic Control, Taxed 6 Months, MOT 10 Months, 68,000 miles, Lovely car to drive

**Telephone: 07789597092**

**£1,600 o.n.o.**

**STATIC CARAVAN WILLERBY**



28' x 10'

**Telephone: 01631 720380 day or 01631 720322 after 6pm**

**£2,400 o.n.o.**

**SUZUKI GRAND VITARA**



5 DOOR, 2L PETROL 55 REG, 31000 Miles, MOT to Feb

**Telephone: 01770 303530**

**£7350**

**HONDA FOURTRACK QUAD**

250cc, Low miles, low hours, VGC

**Telephone: 01770 600810 07979 416372**

**£1750**

**LANDROVER DISCOVERY ES**

1998, LPG, Red, 5 months MOT, 5 months Tax, towbar, 3 way bike carrier included

**Telephone: 01866 844218 or 0777 6165837**

**£1,995ono**

**MF80 POWER LOADER WITH GRAPE & BUCKET**



CW spools, hoses & brackets bolts to fit 135,165,265 etc. Pel job EB12.4 Mini digger with 3 buckets good working order £3800

**Tel: 01855 821568 or 07889959500**

**£1000**

**VOLVO S40 1.8**



2000, MOT May 2011, Taxed Oct, usual Volvo refinements, lovely condition

**Telephone: 07789 597092**

**Bargain at £950ovno**

**W REG PEUGEOT 406 RAPIER**



1800cc, MOT to May 2011. Excellent runner, 115k miles, new clutch and 4 new tyres.

**Telephone: 01866 844235 or 07771965813**

**£795 o.n.o.**

**Buyers should note where standardised silhouettes are used they do not accurately represent the vehicle being sold**

**30FT VERSITILITY**



Sealed deck, Ford Lehman 4D 254 diesel engine. 2 Berths, Sea toiler, Cooker & Sink. Radio, Fish finder, Dual steering. Ideal Workboat.

**Tel: 01967 421688**

**£10,250**

**6M RIB**

Orange hull and tubes, 115HP Suzuki Outboard, Galvanised Trailer, Fair condition.

**Telephone: 07976 012314**

**£4,500 o.n.o.**

**krisp print**

Promote your business 365 days a year with our range of affordable corporate calendars

**CALL NOW FOR DETAILS**

Burnbank, Burnside Street, Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6JD

**Tel: 01586 554975**  
**Fax: 01586 554903**  
**email: staff@krispprint.co.uk**  
**www.krispprint.co.uk**

**Advertise your business all year round**



**2011 Corporate Calendars available to order NOW**

**53%** of decision-makers source their vehicles locally

Regional press is the relevant choice for motors advertising.

Source: Business Choice II, The Newspaper Society

**Regional Press** closer to home

**new car index**

**TOYOTA Helensburgh**  
5 John Street, Helensburgh  
Tel. 01436 672779  
www.helensburgh.toyota.co.uk

**RENAULT W.D Semple**  
Inveraray & Lochgilphead  
Tel. 01499 302150

**ISUZU S & S Services**  
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080 / 880440

**SUBARU S & S Services**  
Old Bridge Road, Heathfield, Ayr  
Tel. 01292 880080/880440

**TO PROMOTE YOUR NEW CAR DEALERSHIP PLEASE CALL: 01631 568000**

**HELENSBURGH HONDA**  
www.helensburghhonda.co.uk  
101 East Clyde Street  
Helensburgh, G84 7PJ  
Tel: 01436 675 777

# West Coast property service

www.westcoastpropertyguide.co.uk



## Building Plots For Sale - Dalmally, Argyll

Peaceful location overlooking River Orchy to the South and stunning views of Cruachan mountain range to the West. Developed sites, each with outline planning for single dwelling, services adjacent.

Prices starting at £70,000



For viewing contact 07775 632585

## FOR SALE

Building Plots with outline planning consent in Taynuilt Village. Mains sewer within grounds, electricity and water adjacent to site.

£65,000 each.

Also building with main street frontage suitable for commercial use or conversion.

All Enquiries to 07775 632585

## TIME SHARES FOR SALE SCANDINAVIAN VILLAGE AVIEMORE

1 BEDROOM APARTMENTS Sleeps 4 (RED TIME AVAILABLE FOR HIGH SEASONS SWAP)

1 Week February School Holiday Time £300ono

1 Week Mid July £1,350ono

LOW ANNUAL MAINTENANCE

TEL: 01631 710352

## PRICING OPTIONS

### OPTION 1

#### The Greens

#### Soroba Road, Oban

Semi detached 3 bedroom property in a central location, close to shops. Excellent local bus service.



- 3 bedrooms (1 en-suite)
- Entrance hall, Lounge, Kitchen with Dining area, Bathroom
- Modern fully fitted kitchen
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Off street parking
- Garden and front and rear

**Offers Over £140,000**

For more information or to arrange a viewing call 01631 568000

West Coast property service

**3 WEEKS** was £1,670.76 **NOW £325**

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT OR TO DISCUSS YOUR REQUIREMENTS TEL MARGARET ON 01631 568000 OR EMAIL adverts@obantimes.co.uk offer exclusive to re-sale property only

## E. Thornton & Co.

SOLICITORS NOTARIES AND ESTATE AGENTS

Visit our website at www.ethornton.co.uk



### ARNABOST, 8 MOSSPARK, NORTH CONNELL, PA37 1TD

Ideal family home situated in a large well maintained garden in a secluded position with views of the majestic Beinn Lora.

- 4 bedrooms (1 en suite)
- Vestibule, hall, sitting room
- Fitted kitchen and utility room
- Bathroom
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Double Garage and Parking for 4 cars

**Offers Over £240,000**

17/19 LOCHSIDE STREET, OBAN, ARGYLL, PA34 4HP  
☎(01631) 566771 info@ethornton.co.uk

## West Coast Property Guide

### Two bedroom flat Dunollie, Corran Brae

Solid fuel central heating, double glazed throughout, Jacuzzi bath, walk in condition

**£95,000**

Telephone 07799137520

West Coast property service

## Bell Ingram



01631 566 122  
2 Gibraltar Street, Oban, PA34 4AY  
bellingram.co.uk



### 12 Shuna Terrace, Oban

Well presented ex local authority mid terraced house in a popular residential area. With lovely views over Oban Bay and the surrounding hills and within easy reach of all town centre facilities and amenities

- Vestibule, hall, lounge, kitchen, 3 bedrooms and bathroom
- Double glazing
- Night storage heating
- Attractive rear garden
- Large communal front garden
- On street parking

**Offers in the region of £125,000**

s1homes.com rightmove.co.uk

## COMMERCIAL

### BUSINESS FOR SALE

COMMERCIAL DRY CLEANING AND LAUNDRY BUSINESS COVERING THE MID ARGYLL AREA. EXISTING CLIENT BASE, EXCELLENT TURNOVER. SALE INCLUDES ALL EQUIPMENT, FIXTURES & FITTINGS AND DELIVERY VEHICLE.

**PRICE £55,000**

ACCOUNTS AVAILABLE TO SERIOUS PARTIES ONLY. CONTACT 01546 600222 FOR DETAILS.

West Coast property service

When moving home, 62% of people relocate within a five-mile radius.

This illustrates a strong attachment to the local area. Regional press is the relevant choice for property advertising.



Source: Consumers' Choice V, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press closer to home

## M C & D Mactaggart SOLICITORS KINTYRE ESTATE AGENCY



### 8 Smith Drive, Campbeltown

This lovely little mid-terrace bungalow, freshly decorated and in walk-in condition, is situated in a central but quiet area convenient for all local amenities. Gas central heating and double glazing throughout.

- Sitting Room
- Kitchen
- Bedroom
- Bathroom

**Offers over £70,000**

Castlehill, Campbeltown, Argyll, PA28 6AR Telephone (01586) 552317 Fax (01586) 554719 (24-Hour Answering Service)  
57 Lochmell Street, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8JN Telephone (01546) 602581 E-mail: mail@cdm-law.co.uk

## West Coast West Coast West Coast Property Guide Property Guide Property Guide

## WANTED

### Wanted: Holiday Cottages

- High occupancy levels and payment in advance
- FREE property inspection, photos and rental advice
- Over £1000 FREE advertising & top GOOGLE search positions

0800 915 4750

www.SykesLettings.co.uk

SYKES COTTAGES

## TO LET

### FOR RENT

#### 3 Bed Detached House

Creag Bhan, Oban, parking ref. required

£700

(includes C/Tax) contact

01852300339

or 07900412251

### TO RENT

Recently refurbished two bedroom ground floor flat on Hillside Road, Campbeltown.

Fully-furnished, off street parking for 2 cars, gardens to front and rear.

Available 1st December

No pets, smokers, DSS

Contact: 07917 353866

Charming 3-bedroom furnished cottage mid Argyll 20-min Tarbert/40-min Lochgilphead. Garden, wood-burning stove, sea view. £525.00 pm plus rates/ utilities.

References required. No dss or smokers. textline13@gmail.com or 0131-5511736

### TO LET

Small well furnished flat in Oban, suit professional non-smoker, references and deposit required. Please phone 07881 950746

### TO LET

#### Modern 3 Bedroom Terraced Cottage.

Close to Campbeltown. DG, EH, multi fuel stove and garden. White goods and furniture included. Would suit a professional couple. Rent £420 per month. Deposit £420. 07731 790240.

### Flat for Rent

#### Furnished bed-sit flat in Ardrishaig

Available for long let No DSS £340 per calendar month + Council Tax Apply in writing to Box number 100, Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead, PA31 8NB

### House for rent

Fully furnished three bedroom house for rent in Benderloch village. Garden with private parking. Available for long let. References required. No DSS, pets or smokers Contact 07900 828217

### HOUSE FOR RENT

4 bedroom detached house in country location 5 miles south of Oban. Available for long term let. References required. No D.S.S. Rent £650 pcm + C/Tax etc. Contact 07795972665

### Room to let / house share Lochgilphead

Quiet area

References required

£250 p.c.m + bills

Telephone 01546 606515

Are you looking to move house? 43% of those planning on buying a house in the next year have been exposed to advertising in the regional press, double the number in any other medium.

CALL 01546 606515

Regional Press closer to home

SCOTTISH Cottages

## HOLIDAY COTTAGES WANTED ONLY

**15%** AGENCY COMMISSION

- \* Payment in advance
- \* Flexible owner bookings
- \* Sales lines open 7 days/week

For details and an Owner Information Pack please contact Karen McWilliams 01665 570 715 karen@scottish-cottages.co.uk www.scottish-cottages.co.uk

## West Coast West Coast Property Guide Property Guide

### OPTION 2

#### The Greens

#### Soroba Road, Oban

Semi detached 3 bedroom property in a central location, close to shops. Excellent local bus service.

- 3 bedrooms (1 en-suite)
- Entrance hall, Lounge, Kitchen with Dining area, Bathroom
- Modern fully fitted kitchen
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Off street parking
- Garden and front and rear

**Offers Over £140,000**

For more information or to arrange a viewing call 01631 568000

West Coast property service

**3 WEEKS** was £1,193.40 **NOW £265**

GIVE YOUR PROPERTY THE MAXIMUM EXPOSURE, USE THE OBAN TIMES GROUP.

### OPTION 3

#### The Greens

#### Soroba Road, Oban

Semi detached 3 bedroom property in a central location, close to shops.

- 3 bedrooms (1 en-suite)
- Entrance hall, Lounge, Kitchen with Dining area, Bathroom
- Modern fully fitted kitchen
- Fully double glazed
- Electric storage heating
- Off street parking

**Offers Over £140,000**

For more information or to arrange a viewing call 01631 568000

West Coast property service

**3 WEEKS** was £835.38 **NOW £205**

## HOME REPORT

It is now a legal requirement that every home advertised for sale must have a Home Report

All prices include full colour, all photographs and are inclusive for 3 weeks. Prices are exclusive of VAT

www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk

NOW ONLINE

Advertise your unwanted items in either The Oban Times, Campbeltown Courier or Argyllshire Advertiser and your ad will also appear online at www.westcoastclassifieds.co.uk. Simply use the coupons on this page or visit the website and input your details there

AUDIO EQUIPMENT

**SONY STEREO** Sony stereo silver with beech effect speakers, 15w per channel, C.D., Tape, Radio Good Condition suit small room, £30 Telephone 07795 670410.

BABY EQUIPMENT

**BABY CHAIR** step stool, £10 Telephone 01631 730437.

**BATH** for baby, £5 Telephone 01631 730437.

**CARRY COT** and transporter, £10 Telephone 01631 730437.

**DOUBLE BUGGY** nearly new, used twice, comes with rain cover, £48 Telephone 01866 822095.

**PRAM 3-IN-1 COSATTO** Navy with navy/green check trim. Separate carrycot, changing bag, height adjustable handle, footmuff, 2 x coolmax mattress, £45 Telephone 07801 300664.

**STROLLER** great for travelling, £7 Telephone 01631 730437.

**VTECH DISCOVERY PLAYGROUND** suitable from birth, music, lights, sound, excellent for tummy time, in good condition, £15 Telephone 01631 563414.

BICYCLES

**BICYCLE Ladies**, Raleigh, 3-speed gears, brand new tyres, very good condition (Tarbert), £49.99 Telephone 01880 821070.

**BICYCLE Ladies**, Raleigh, 3-speed gears, brand new tyres, very good condition (Tarbert), £49.99 Telephone 01880 821070.

**ELECTRONIC RAINBOW RACER** Create your own ever changing disc of coloured light, brand new, still in box. Age 5+, £19.99 Telephone 01866 822095.

**MOUNTAIN BIKE SARACEN** 'blizzard', adult, white, 21 speed SHIMANO gearset, thumbshifts, quick release hubs, centrepull brakes, vgc, £49.99 Telephone 01631 720233.

**TRICYCLE** children's (Peppa Pig), £10 Telephone 01631 740553.

BUILDING / DIY

**ALUMINIUM RODDING POINTS** 5 oval rodding access points, couple of months old as new, £49.99 Telephone 01866 833202.

**AXMINSTER BS350** Axminster BS350 1.5kw Bandsaw £200.00, Jet BD31A Belt and Disc Sander, £500.00, ABAC B3914 150HP3 Workshop Air Compressor £300.00. All single phase, little used and in excellent condition. Prices as above or £900 for the lot. Telephone 07810 483763.

**BALLACHULISH SLATES** 3000, ready for uplift. Can be palletised if required, £750 per 1000 or £2000 the lot 01855 811654

**SCAFFOLDING** Serviceable, suitable for self build, huge saving on hiring, £1750 Telephone 01852 200258 or 07787 303562.

**SLATES** Green Peggies 10"x8", approx one thousand and seventeen hundred, VGC on pallets. Offers around, £750 Telephone 01499 302654.

CAR ACCESSORIES

**STONE CHIP AND SCRATCH REPAIR** Volkswagen Dragon Green 3 pen kit, never used, still in packaging, £15 Telephone 01866 822095.

CHRISTMAS

**SANTA CLAUS OUTFIT** department store quality, wig, beard, boot tops, hat and hand bells, good condition (Lochgillhead), £49.99 Telephone 01546 600171.

CLOTHES, SHOES AND ACCESSORIES

**BLACK MUCK BOOTS** Size 8 Black muck boots/half wellies. Worn once. Excellent condition, £20 Telephone 01631 720493.

**MONKEE GENES** black cord skinny jeans, bought from Jeanshop 2 months ago, never been worn, small label still attached, size 10, really nice, £35 Telephone 07787 125579.

**MOTOCROSS JACKET** leather age 7/8 years, rebel, black red and white, great condition, £30 Telephone 07787 125579.

DOMESTIC APPLIANCES

**AMERICAN FRIDGE FREEZER** Kenmore, American import, good condition, this appliance requires 110 volt supply, W780, H1650, D680, pick up only, £49.99 Telephone 01852 500651.

**AUTOMATIC CHANGEOVER KIT** two pack for use with propane gas cylinders, less than 12 months old. Please ring after 6pm, £40 Telephone 01546 605311.

**COOKER** New World Natural Gas (4 burner/oven/grill), excellent working order, £30 Telephone 01631 564844.

**DYSON DC04 UPRIGHT CLEANER** little used, as new, Campbeltown, £49.99 Telephone 01586 554202.

**HOOVER WASHING MACHINE** Model VHD842 8KG, white, brand new still in packaging, cost new £380.00, £280 Telephone 01866 833202.

**TURBO VAC FOOD VACUUM PACKER** 420/ST, as new, half price, £850 Telephone 01700 811259.

**WASHING MACHINE** Whirlpool top loader washing machine, commercial size, under parts warranty, to be uplifted, £49.99 Telephone 01583 421208.

**WASHING MACHINE** Kenmore topload, American import, requires 110 volt supply, good condition, W610, H1100, D650, pick up only, £49.99 Telephone 01852 500651.

**CAST IRON FIRE PLACE** Offers 01586 551473

EQUESTRIAN

**LADIES BODY PROTECTOR** Ladies Harry Hall horse riding body protector. Size medium. Worn once, Red/Black/Grey/Blue £45 Telephone 01631 720493.

FURNITURE

**BED** children's high bed with drawers and cupboard underneath, £25 Telephone 01631 740553.

**BED BASE** for simple divan, two storage drawers, good condition, £25 Telephone 01631 563584.

**BED SETTEE** modern wooden framed bed settee. Tel office hours, £15 Telephone 01631 564848.

**COMPUTER CHAIR** Telephone Office Hours, £3 Telephone 01631 564848.

**DINING CHAIRS** set of 6 dining chairs incl. 2 carvers, wine velour. Telephone Office Hours, £18 01631 564848.

**DISPLAY CABINET** dark wood, corner. Telephone Office Hours £10 01631 564848.

**EDWARDIAN SOFA** drop arm, dark rose, good condition, can be seen in situ, buyer collects, £25 Telephone 01855 811446.

**MATTRESS** Supreme double mattress, little used, as new, to be uplifted, £49.99 Telephone 01583 421208.

**OFFICE DESK** approx 3'x2' with three drawers. Telephone Office Hours, £9 Telephone 01631 564848.

**PINE HEADBOARD** antique pine, for double bed. Excellent condition, £10 Telephone 01631 710787.

**SETTEES** modern IKEA 3 seater and two seater settees, with loose covers. Suit student flat. Tel office hours, £18 Telephone 01631 564848.

**SOFA** cream leather 3 seater recliner and recliner chair, worth a look, buyer collects (Oban), £49 Telephone 07963 959769.

**TABLE** circular pine extending dining table and 6 chairs. Telephone Office Hours, £29 Telephone 01631 564848.

**TELEPHONE SEAT** mahogany upholstered in cream damask fabric. Excellent condition, lovely piece of furniture-buyer collects from Ardrishaig, £25 Telephone 01546 603536.

**THREE PIECE SUITE** grey velour FREE, £ Telephone 01631 564844.

**THREE PIECE SUITE** only 18 months old, beige and black, genuine reason for sale, £650 ono, Telephone 07917 034653.

GENERATORS

**NU POWER 800MAX** PETROL generator, unused, £49 Telephone 01631 720556.

HEALTH AND FITNESS

**EXERCISE MACHINE** easy glider, cross training style, £35 Telephone 07967 826875 or 01631 730209.

HEATING, FIRES AND FIREPLACES

**CERAMIC TOWER HEATER** Prem-I-Air Ceramic tower heater with remote control. New in box. Bought from John Lewis, £35 Telephone 01631 720493.

**ELECTRIC FIRE** Burley electric fire, gold, coal effect, inserts in to fire place, as new, to be uplifted, £49.99 Telephone 01583 421208.

**ELECTRIC FIRE** (531/211" w 28" h) FREE, Telephone 01631 564844.

**PAPER LOG MAKER** Eko-Mania paper log maker. Used twice. Makes paper bricks to burn on coal/wood fire. Recycle, £20 Telephone 01631 720493.

HIGHLAND DRESS

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**TELEVISION** Venture 16 inch LCD with DVD, wall mounted suitable for bedroom, perfect condition, £49.99 Telephone 07884 231775.

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**PINK NEXT DOOR STORAGE** Fabric hanging door storage unit from Next. Pink with deep pockets. Good condition, £5 Telephone 01852 200542.

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KITCHEN AND BATHROOM

**FITTED KITCHEN** 5 years old Howdens beech effect Kitchen, 28 assorted units, L shaped layout 3.6m x 5m. Fair condition, available mid December, £1200 Telephone 01546 510549.

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and mountains. Always a popular gift for family and friends at home or abroad. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

**OBAN TIMES WEST HIGHLAND CALENDAR**, fabulous views of the West Highlands portrayed in this handy and conveniently sized calendar. Ideal for home offices or as a gift. Order on-line at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk.

Thanks also to Holly Tree Hotel and staff for a beautiful dinner and drinks. The MacBrayne Circle of Friends for provision of Vintage Coach Travel. Callum Iain MacCorquodale's Band and various volunteer musicians and local helpers who contributed to a wonderful evening at the Kentallen and Duror Hall.

Special thanks to my daughter Catherine who put so much work into organising the whole event as a complete surprise party for me. What more can I say but, Moran Taing Dhùibh Uile.

Many thanks to you all.

**Ronnie MacColl** Would like to thank family and friends for gifts, cards and good wishes at his surprise 60th birthday party. A special thankyou to Ronald, Fiona and Lyndsay for organizing a great evening. Thankyou also to Ross and the Band for great music. Thank You All.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY KIM 21 TODAY** Lots of Love Mum and Roddy xx

**ANNIE HENDERSON** Would like to thank everyone who attended her 'surprise' 80th Birthday Party and those who sent cards. The sum of £310 was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support. Many thanks.

**WORDS BY THE WAYSIDE** "There is now therefore no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus." If you know Him as your Lord and Saviour, sin shall never condemn you, for Christ has made satisfaction for it. www.WordsbytheWayside.co.uk

**OBAN TIMES PERSONALS**

PERSONALS

**JAMES (JIMMY) MACDONALD** Would like to thank all his family, relations and friends who sent cards and presents for his 70th birthday celebrations.

Thanks also to Holly Tree Hotel and staff for a beautiful dinner and drinks. The MacBrayne Circle of Friends for provision of Vintage Coach Travel. Callum Iain MacCorquodale's Band and various volunteer musicians and local helpers who contributed to a wonderful evening at the Kentallen and Duror Hall.

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**OBAN TIMES PERSONALS**

**BIRTH**

**MACLEOD** - Calum MacLeod and Tricia Smith are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Ruari William MacLeod born 11.10.10. A first Grandchild for Brenda and William MacLeod, Appin, and Frances Tierney, Oban, and Thomas Smith, Airdrie. A special thanks to the staff at Oban Maternity Unit.

**GUNN** - Andrew and Lisa (nee MacMillan) are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter Lexie Catherine on October 6, 2010. A little sister for Archie, a first granddaughter for Gep and Marion, Arisaig.

**SKINNER** - David and Ana are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Alistair on Monday 18 October, 2010. A little brother for Isabella and third grandchild for Donald and Meg, Connel and second grandchild for Rafael and Ana, Obregon, Mexico.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

**BAKER - ADAM**, Both families are delighted to announce the engagement of Alistair, son of James and Flora Baker, Lochgilphead to Louise, daughter of Sandy and Christine Adam, Aberdeen.

**DEATHS**

**MACPHERSON** - Peacefully at home Scotstown, Strontian on October 21, 2010 aged 90 years, Annie MacPherson beloved wife of the late William MacPherson, loving mother of Jean and Billy, dear mother in law of Donnie and Ann and devoted grandmother of Megan and Mitchell. Will be sadly missed by family and friends. Funeral Service was held in Strontian Parish Church on October 27, 2010.

**SLADEN** - On October 18th 2010 Lucy M Sladen (nee Urquhart), adored wife of Keith, loving mother to Alan, Clare and son-in-law Pete, dear sister of Colin, Agnes and Wilma, beloved daughter of the late William and Lucy Urquhart. Cremation took place in London. Family and friends will forever hold Lucy very dearly in their hearts.

**TIPPEN** (nee Fraser) - Helen of Wakefield and formerly of Fort William died peacefully on Sunday October 17, 2010 aged 90 years. Widow of Lew and a loving mother and grandma. Her Kindness and humour will be greatly missed by family and friends. The funeral service and cremation took place at Wakefield Crematorium on Thursday 21st October 2010. All enquiries please to R. J. Burgess Funeral Directors 01924 894017.

**WATT** - Peacefully at home on October 23rd, 2010, Frances, beloved wife of Alasdair, much loved mum of Susan and a devoted grandmother & great grandmother. Sadly missed.

**WHYTE** - Suddenly but peacefully at the Lorn and Islands Hospital, Oban, on October 21, 2010, in his 68th year, David (Davie), beloved husband of Linda, 33 Combie Street, Oban, much loved Dad of David, Karen, Kirstie and Duncan and dearly loved granddad and Seannair to Catrina, Darren, Ruairidh, Kyle, Findlay, Heather and Chloe. Much loved and sorely missed.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**WATSON** - The Watson family would like to thank the people who cared for Margaret Ann during her illness. Macmillan Nurses especially Hilary Brown, District Nurses especially Karen Wesley, Marie Curie Nurses, Susan Black for tender attention, Integrated Care Team (ICT), all the ladies were so kind and helpful, Lorn Medical Centre, Dr Allyson Murray and Dr Fiona MacLennan, Beatson Oncology Centre, Ward B6. Words cannot thank these people enough for their kindness and their care of Margaret Ann. We would like to thank all those people who sent us tributes, who attended the church service and who gave us emotional and moral support. Oban FM intend broadcasting a tribute programme at a later date. Rev Ken Hunter is intending to hold a memorial service in the Congregational Church to celebrate the life of Margaret Ann.

**WOOD** - Morag and family of the late John Wood would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for cards, flowers and expressions of sympathy. Special thanks to Macmillan Nurses and staff of the Highland Hospice for the special care John received. Thanks to Fr MacKinnon and Mike McFall for their

sensitive and professional services and to all who attended the church and graveside. The sum of £925 was raised.

**MEMORIALS**

**BIRSE** - In loving memory of Margaret, wife, mother, granny, who died October 30, 2002.

Another year sorely missed. It does not need a special day to bring you to our minds

For days without a thought of you are very hard to find. - Inserted by Husband, daughters and grandchildren near and far.

**BROWN** - Remembering with love, Betty, a much loved mum, granny and wife, who passed away October 27, 2009. Loved and remembered everyday.

- Alastair, Alison, Rebecca and Connor.

**BROWN** - Loving memories of dear Betty who died on October 27, 2009. Always remembered.

- Anne, Willie and family.

**BROWN** - Remembering with love my dear sister Betty who died on October 27, 2009. Happy memories live on.

- Isabel, Kinlochleven

**BROWN** - Treasured memories of my beloved husband James, who passed away on November 1, 2006. Loving thoughts of time together

Hold memories that will last forever. - Mary, Invercoe.

**BROWN** - In loving memory of James, a loving father, grandfather and father-in-law who died November 1, 2006.

Sadly missed and remembered every day.

- From all the family.

**CAMERON** - Precious memories of our dad, Ewen, died November 3, 2000. Ten years on

Still loved and missed every day. - Emma and Eilidh, Drumbarin.

**CAMERON** - Margaret Cameron The Brightest Star in the Sky

Missed so much

**CALDERWOOD** - In loving memory of John, a dear husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather who passed away October 29, 2003.

Always in our thoughts.

**HARLEY** - In loving memory of our sister Jennifer who passed away 31 October 2008

Sadly missed - Susan and Diane

Also a special aunt to Justine, Kyle, Robyn and Lauren.

**HARLEY** - In loving memory of Jennifer Ann Harley beloved daughter of Joyce and Jim. Loving mother of Nicola and grandmother to Ryan. Loving sister of Susan and Diane. Died 31 October, 2008.

Loved and Remembered Every Day.

**JACKSON** - Precious memories of Alasdair, beloved husband, dad and grandad, died October 28, 2005.

- Creina, Riona, Stuart, Mairi and family.

**MACCALMAN** - In loving memory of Netta, a very dear sister, sister-in-law and beloved auntie, who died October 31 2007. Also our brother-in-law and much loved uncle, Archie who died March 21, 2006. Both so sadly missed.

**MACPHAIL** - In loving memory of my father, Neil, who passed away on October 28, 1992.

Loved and remembered always. Mairi and George

**MORRISON** - In loving memory of Donald, a devoted husband and father, died October 31, 2004.

Our family chain is broken And nothing seems the same But as God calls us one by one

The chain will link again. - Chrissie and family, Inverlochry.

**MORRISON** - Remembering our father and grampa Donald, who died on October 31, 2004. Each of us in our own way Have special thoughts of you today.

My love for you goes on and on. Sadly missed - Christeen, 43 Coul Park, Alness

**SIMPSON** - In memory of a dear Aunt Marion, who died October 23, 2009. Who left a place no one can fill always in my thoughts, Archie.

**SIMPSON** - In memory of a dear Aunt Cathie, who died October 28, 2009. Who left a place no one can fill always in my thoughts, Archie.

**SIMPSON** - In loving memory of a darling wife and mother, Catherine (Cathie) who passed away October 28, 2009.

A year has passed since we saw you last

We shared with you such happy days

We miss you in so many ways

You left a place no one can fill

We miss you now and always will. Ever loving husband and son Joey and William xx

**SIMPSON** - In loving memory of our dear sister Marion who died October 23, 2009, also dear sister-in-law, Cathie who died October 28, 2009.

Both fondly remembered. - By all the family, Oban and away.

**SMITH** - With loving memories of my husband David who died November 1, 2005.

Never more than a heartbeat away. - Floey.

**SMITH** - In loving memories of our beloved dad Dugie, who passed away October 24, 1995.

We often think of days gone by

When we were all together

A shadow of our lives is cast

Our loved one gone forever. - Elinore, Norelle, Vanessa and Victoria.

**SMITH** - In loving memory of our precious brother Dugie who died October 24, 1995.

Forever in our thoughts and in our hearts

Miss you so much

All our love - Your sisters Janet, Mary, Amina and their families. Xxxx

**WELSH** - (Jessie) In loving memory of our Mam, Nana, Great Nana, Died 27 October, 2005.

As you were you will always be

Treasures forever in our memory

The Welsh Family.

**WELSH** - Precious memories of Margaret Anne (Maggie), a loving daughter, sister, sister-in-law, auntie and grand-auntie passed away October 29, 2009.

We miss you now and always will.

- Mum and family, Barra and Mainland, Annag, Willie, Marion, Laura, William, Catriona.

Sleep tight. - Rhys.

**WELSH** - In loving memory of our dear sister Jennifer who passed away 31 October 2008

Sadly missed - Susan and Diane

Also a special aunt to Justine, Kyle, Robyn and Lauren.

**HARLEY** - In loving memory of Jennifer Ann Harley beloved daughter of Joyce and Jim. Loving mother of Nicola and grandmother to Ryan. Loving sister of Susan and Diane. Died 31 October, 2008.

Loved and Remembered Every Day.

**JACKSON** - Precious memories of Alasdair, beloved husband, dad and grandad, died October 28, 2005.

**Midnight marriage for luckiest couple**

A GERMAN couple were the first to be married in Britain on the luckiest day of the century - 10/10/10 - after an Islay registrar agreed to a midnight marriage.

Registrar Sharon McHarrie agreed to marry Rolf Heff and Pirrko Batteiger among the ruins on Finlaggan Island on October 10.

But after consulting her diary more closely, she discovered she was due to fly to Caithness with Islay High School's Gaelic choir for the Royal National Mòd in Caithness that day.

Sharon said: 'Rolf said he wanted to get married on 10/10/10 because that's the only way he would remember his anniversary!'

'I had never been asked to do a Sunday wedding but I agreed, however, I soon realised that I would be leaving for the Mòd at 9.45am that day. 'I sent an email back

to Rolf saying there was no way I could do it, but jokingly said the only way it was possible was to marry at midnight.'

'He emailed back to say he had spoken to his fiancée and that would be okay.'

The wedding went ahead in MacGillespeig's House, on Eilean Mor, at Finlaggan, lit up by T-lights and burning torches, with 30 guests in attendance.

Among the guest party were Ieacs that whisky-buff Rolf had befriended on his many trips to the island.

The couple were presented with a bottle of Finlaggan whisky before they held their reception at the White Hart Hotel.

Sharon said: 'I think people thought I was crazy but it was a such a romantic occasion and the setting was beautiful. I have already spoken to the volunteers at Finlaggan to see how we can top this.'



Rolf and Pirrko celebrate their midnight marriage at Finlaggan, Isle of Islay.

**Anglers to take part in annual tagging event**

FISHERMEN from across the country will descend on Loch Etive and Loch Sunart next month for the Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network's (SSACN) annual shark tagging event.

The Tagathon will see as many spurdogs caught and tagged as possible in an effort to determine the local success or otherwise of the species.

A type of small dogshark that can live for up to 100 years used to be commonplace throughout the north east Atlantic but commercial fishing over the last two decades has reduced its numbers by up to 95 per cent.

The tagging is part of the ongoing campaign to allow the stocks of both the spurdog and the common skate to grow in the lochs by protecting their habitats, thought to be important breeding and pupping grounds.

A spokesman for the SSACN said: 'The tagging will also provide data which could determine whether the region carries any unique residential populations.'

'The Scottish Shark Tagging Programme has had many recaptures from both lochs and all the fish were recaptured within a short distance of their original capture and at different times of the year. While too early to make any assumptions, these recaptures certainly support that theory.'

In order to be a success, the SSACN requires the support of the local fishing community.

The spokesman said: 'As with all SSACN tagging events, Tagathon is a fun event with an equal emphasis put on demonstrating to the local residents the real value of angling tourism to their community, as inshore fish populations could be completely sustainable and of far more value when used to support locally based sport fishing centres.'

'To make this event a success we once again need your help. So please consider coming along with your mates, your boat and/or your beachcasters to help us with this important conservation work.'

For more information on the event, which takes place between November 13-14, or to take part, visit the Tagathon website at <http://www.tagsharks.com/tagathon-2010>

**Choir's name**

IN our Mòd coverage, we have been asked to point out that the youth Gaelic choir from Mid-Argyll should have been referred to as Coisir Og Dhailriata.

**Obituary**

**Journalist saw first demonstration of TV**

A LIVING man who went on to become one of Scotland's most respected journalists, Angus Shaw, has died. He was 103.

Born on Luing in 1907, he lived through two world wars and reported on some of the most momentous events of the last century, including the invention of television.

But throughout his life he remained fond of his birthplace and returned many times, despite leaving for Glasgow with his family at the age of 11.

His son, also Angus, now lives in Chile, but said his father was deeply proud of his roots.

He said: 'He was brought up in Luing and the whole family used to go up to Easdale on holiday. He used to have family connections up here until very recently.'

'In fact he maintained his connection with the Oban, Luing and Seil area until quite recently when he moved in to

Erskine Hospital. 'Even then he kept reading *The Oban Times*, trying to keep up with local events and make the connections.'

The Shaw family, who had long operated the slate quarries at Belnahua, lived at Shawfield House, south of Cullipool. Angus had seven sisters and three brothers.

But it was in Glasgow Angus made his name, with a little help from the editor of the Evening News at the time, Neil Munro, who hailed from Inverary.

Neil quickly established a rapport with Angus thanks to the local connection and soon he was out on the beat.

He was on the first *Queen Mary* when it was launched at John Brown's yard in Clydebank in 1934.

He was there when Oscar Slater was released from jail after 19 years for a crime he didn't commit. He was

at Glasgow University when John Logie Baird first demonstrated television, famously saying in his following write up that he didn't think it would catch on.

He was, of course, completely wrong on that front, but he always took comments on the subject with good humour.

Angus Jnr said: 'We used to sit gathered round the television as a family and say, 'aye, it'll never work.'

He was also present at some of the country's greatest tragedies.

In 1929, fire broke out at Glen Cinema in Paisley, where 81 children were crushed to death in the panic. Angus was one of those who had the grim task of helping lay the bodies out at the hospital mortuary.

He also saw action on the front lines in the Russian convoys and

somehow managed to escape with his life after his ship was one of 23 British craft sunk by the Nazis.

Angus Jnr said his father didn't really recognise the magnitude of events he had been involved in.

He said: 'I think he really underestimated himself and everything he had been through.'

'He was always very reluctant to talk about his wartime experiences - they were considerable - and the disaster at Paisley, where he helped lift the bodies of the kids out afterwards.'

At home, he suffered triumph as well as tragedy. His wife, Winnie Mason, was a Scottish tennis champion and the couple took great pride in their only daughter, also Winnie, who reached the semi-finals of Wimbledon in 1972.

She later took up golf, reaching a handicap of one, but later died of brain tumour at the age of 42.

Angus Jnr said his lasting memory of his father was of someone that was as popular as he was talented.

He said: 'There are so many memories. I have lived in Chile for some years now but we could come across once or twice a year to see him. He has three grandchildren and a great-grandchild and they treated each other as equals.'

'He was always well respected and well liked, wherever he went.'

Angus Jnr will return to Scotland next year to scatter his father's ashes at the Isle of Seil, one of his favourite spots and the location where the ashes of his wife and daughter were scattered.

**Thought for the Week**

'FOR I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8: 38-39).

All the young students stood before the congregation having memorised the Bible reading above and each child proudly recited it perfectly. The church were holding their breath for the last child, Rachel. Rachel was a beautiful down syndrome child. Would she face embarrassment when her turn came? The teacher got to

the end of the line and asked: 'Rachel what shall separate us for the Love of God?' Rachel boldly stood and said 'Nothing!' This is the love that God has for those in Christ Jesus. Trust him, love him, serve him and worship our Lord God and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Bill Harvey Lay Preacher

**Award-winning musicians help raise cash**

LOCHABER ceilidh band Brocken Spectre got feet tapping in the Loch Leven Hotel in North Ballachulish on Saturday night in what was the second of their two weekend gigs.

The band, comprising Roy Bridge brothers Euan Wilkie (fiddle) and Alexander Wilkie (accordion), and Martainn Skene, from Spean Bridge, on keyboards, was missing members Christina Wilkie and Alasdair Strachan from its line-up but still

made a great sound for the enthusiastic audience and dancers.

The group was also in tremendous form at Caol Community Centre on Friday night at a Rotary Club of Lochaber ceilidh, which was part of the Big National Ceilidh to raise funds for Wateraid.

Earlier this year the talented youngsters won the Silver Jubilee Trophy for Group Music Making at the Lochaber Music Festival, attaining distinction.



Brocken Spectre provided the music at a ceilidh in the Loch Leven Hotel on Saturday night. 10. f44brocken01

**ECCLESIASTICAL NOTICES**

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Sunday 31 October 2010  
Oban High School  
Main Hall  
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All Welcome  
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Campbell Street Church  
Sunday 31 October 2010  
11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.  
Phone-In 'Worship Link' available  
Rev. Archie McPhail  
MA, MTh  
(01631) 567076  
All welcome

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANGLICAN COMMUNION**

Sunday 31 October 2010  
11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.  
Phone-In 'Worship Link' available  
Rev. Archie McPhail  
MA, MTh  
(01631) 567076  
All welcome

Loop System  
Large Print Hymn Books  
All Welcome  
Norman MacCallum,  
Provost.  
(01631) 562323

St Columba, Gruline, Mull  
Mattins.....11.00

St Columba, Bishop's House, Iona  
Holy Eucharist.....08.00  
Evensong.....20.00

**GRADUATIONS**



Lucy Emma McIntyre graduated with a First Class Honours in Business Economics from Strathclyde University. Lucy was educated at Caol Primary School then Lochaber High School. Lucy is the daughter of Peter and Anne McIntyre of Caol, Fort William.

**CHARITY DONATIONS**

**Oban Hospice**  
CARING FOR THE FUTURE  
Donations always gratefully accepted  
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Oban Hospice Ltd  
The Croft  
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Please give your financial support by donation, deed of covenant or legacy  
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**Oban Times ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# Lochaber boxers hit the big time

## Youngsters fight for Scotland Select against England

TWELVE year-old James Aitchison and 13 year-old Chris Bradley did themselves and Fort William proud at the weekend when they appeared for a Scotland Select against an England Select at the Grassroots Boxing show in Moodiesburn, near Glasgow.

Both young Lochaber Phoenix Boxing club boys trained extremely hard for their opportunity and

performed fantastically well in what was a tremendous learning experience earning rave plaudits from the watching coaches.

**Busy Period**  
The busy period for the club continues this weekend as Artom Jevstijevic and Chris Donnelly enter the Scottish novice championships in Coatbridge and Stephen Cameron faces the Scottish Intermediate champion in

Renfrewshire. Coach Niall Clark said: 'The boys are not going to rest on their laurels. The whole club are training hard in the gym in preparation for their appearances at the home show in the Nevis Centre on Saturday November 6th.'

Ticket information is available from the venue, Niall on 07887711457 and Vince Lopez on 07979321025.



Packing a punch: young Lochaber Phoenix boxers James Aitchison, right, and Chris Bradley fought for Scotland against England. 10\_144box01

# Fort face tough test at Turriff

**Highland League**  
FORT William manager Calum MacLean is predicting his side's clash with highflying Turriff United will be their biggest challenge of the season so far.

The Lochaber side travel to Aberdeenshire on Saturday to take on joint top Turriff, who have a 100 per cent home record this season.

**Rested**  
Fort, who are currently bottom of the league, have no suspension worries going into the game and top scorer Iain Maclellan may return to the starting line up after being rested for their last game against Huntly.



Iain Maclellan: may return for crunch match against Turriff. 10\_144fort01

**Football**  
The big striker's presence is sure to add punch to Fort's forward line, which has been struggling to find the net in recent matches.

So far Fort have notched only nine goals in ten league starts and have bagged only four points, leaving them a single point behind fellow strugglers Rothes and Strathspey.

Calum told *The Oban Times* he was expecting a difficult game. He said: 'It'll be a very hard game for us up in Turriff, probably our hardest game so far. We're going to have to work really hard to get anything. They've brought in a few players and they're really flying at the moment.'

**Improved**  
He added: 'Although we've lost 3-0 to Huntly and 1-0 against Lossiemouth in the last few weeks, the performances have been much improved.'

'We've got a young side, you're going to get mistakes from them. Its part of their learning form, but we need to start cutting out some of the errors. The other sides aren't cutting us open, it's our own mistakes that's our downfall.'



# Ten-pin bowling season starts

John Friel of the Will-o-bees was top scorer with a 167 as the Lochaber ten-pin bowling league got its winter season underway at the Nevis Centre on Monday night. Eleven teams have registered for the competition, sponsored by Lochaber Building Supplies. The league will run for 20 weeks with games played from 7pm. Above, 'The Likely Lads' of Gavin MacDonald, Murdo MacDonald, Robert Cairns and Mick Welch, line up for *The Oban Times* before their first game. 10\_144bow01

# Scotland unveil new playing kit

**Shinty**  
THE SCOTLAND shinty team have unveiled their new kit ahead of this weekend's shinty-hurling international in Ireland.

Fort William and Scotland star Niall MacPhee and his international teammate John Barr showed off the new strip at the home of sponsors Caledonian Brewery Deuchars IPA in Edinburgh on Tuesday.

All three Scotland squads (senior, under 21s and women) fly out to Ireland tomorrow (Friday) and will take on their Irish hurling and camogie counterparts on Saturday.

National head coach Drew McNeil is confident about

Scotland's chances in the match. He said: 'We were victorious in Kilkenny in 2008 and lost out narrowly in 2009, so we are desperate to return to winning ways and I believe we have the squad to do so.'

Throw-up for the senior match takes place at 4.45pm at the prestigious Croke Park, Dublin, while the women and under 21s get underway at Ratoath, County Meath, at 11.30pm and 1.00pm respectively.

The Irish team will travel to Bught Park, Inverness for the return match on Saturday November 13.



Niall MacPhee and John Barr with coach Drew McNeil showing off the new Scotland strip.

## FOOTBALL

CAOL and All Trades maintained their 100 per cent records in the Ali Young Winter League with wins over Achintore FC and Ballachulish respectively. Goon Squad dropped from first to fifth after losing 3-0 to Livercaol, while HW Energy beat bottom side Pogon 4-0.

NGTW picked up their first points of the season with a 3-1 win against Crazy Crofter and Funky Five and Lochaber Leisure played out a 1-1 draw.

Fixtures for Sunday October 31: Achintore FC vs Crazy Crofter; All Trades vs Caol; Livercaol vs HW Energy; Lochaber Leisure vs Goon Squad; NGTW vs Funky Five; Pogon vs Ballachulish

## Rugby game off

## RUGBY

LOCHABER Rugby Club's game against RAF Kinloss was postponed on Saturday after the Moray team were unable to field a side.

RAF Kinloss only had nine players available for the game, which will be replayed at a later date.

Lochaber currently sit in third place in the Caledonia Division Two North West, and will play Strathspey away on Saturday.

## Gun Club big shots

## SHOOTING

GLENFINNAN Gun Club saw a good turnout of 29 guns for their shoot on Saturday.

Results: John MacLeod Memorial Shield - Ross MacLean, Conaglen Estate, Ardour, Duncan Stoddart Memorial Quich - Tristan Sanders, New Zealand. Local Shield, David MacDonald Shield - Ross MacLean. Under 18 competition - Aaron McGhee. High Gun for the day, Joe MacLeod Cup - Ross MacLean. Ladies prize, McDonald Brothers bouquet - Lynn Wemyss, Tain.

**Skye Golf Club**  
THE CAPTAINS Prize medal competition took place over the weekend at Isle of Skye Golf Club. A close finish saw Jamie Beaton pip Alastair Campbell for the win as a result of a better inward half score.

## GOLF

Captain's Prize result 1, Jamie Beaton gross 76 net 65 (bih); 2, Alastair Campbell gross 79 net 65; 3, J. Finlayson gross 78 net 66.

Spot the SHINTY BALL Competition



WIN £1150

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



This week's nearest the ball winners, who each receive £25 are:  
R Baurou, Kerrera Terrace, Oban and W MacNeil, Balvicar Road, Oban

**All you have to do**  
We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph opposite. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.  
If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.  
The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. Prizes will be shared between those submitting correct entries.  
If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

**Easy to enter**  
Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to reach 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 12noon Tuesday.  
You may hand it into The Oban Times Head Office, Lochavullin, Oban by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

**Competition Rules**  
No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.  
The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.  
In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company.  
The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time.  
Employees of The Oban Times Limited, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter.



I enclose £1 (note) for 20 crosses (tick box)  The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules.  
How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel No. \_\_\_\_\_

Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB

## New look Lorne struggle to get bonus point win

### Smith solo run turns the tide

KITTED out in new green strips and with their sponsors looking on, Oban Lorne made hard work of their bonus-point victory over Millbrae.

Some poor tackling and handling errors were a constant feature of the day and an impressive solo run from Cameron Smith was required in the second half to turn the tide of this match.

Oban looked good for a comfortable day at the office when player-coach Corrie Louw drove over the line from 10 metres out after a well-worked lineout in the opening minutes.

But Millbrae fought back with a try of their own. Oban

replied with a try from Kyle Kennedy and both teams kept the score line close and at half time Oban still looked good for their 12-5 lead.

However, on a cold but sunny afternoon the green machine failed to start as the second half commenced and Millbrae scored two tries in quick succession.

With Lorne's backline unable to create a flowing move, Smith picked up the ball outside his own 22-yard line and evaded three tackles down the left wing before touching down in the corner.

This levelled the score and sparked an Oban comeback, with Colin Chadwick scoring the deciding try.

Louw was yellow carded

for talking back to the referee but his side's defence proved good enough to thwart Millbrae's last-gasp attacks and win 22-17.

Oban are away next week to Lenzie RFC.

The team's shirts continue to be sponsored by MacQueen Bros this season; Jackson Bros Butchers sponsors the shorts; Oban Marina sponsors the socks; Hamish Matheson of Lonan Properties has supplied training tops; builders Bruce and Stewart MacGregor sponsored the polo shirts; Neil MacGougan Joiners has sponsored the kit bags and Roddy Scott of the Waterfront has sponsored tracksuits.



Cameron Smith sets off for his solo try, which turned the match in Oban's favour. 07\_144rug02

## Results and fixtures for the Scottish Amateur League

FOOTBALL

LAST Saturday's results: West of Scotland Cup - second round - Oban Saints 1, Kilsyth 2 (after extra time); Carlton YM 'B' 0, Tarbert 3; Dunoon 9, Muirend 1. Bishopton v Lochgilphed Red Star (postponed).

Premier Division One - Campbeltown Pupils 'A' 2, Shawlands FP 3.

Division 3 - Strathaven Dynamo 5, Campbeltown Pupils 'B' 0.

This weekend's fixtures: Premier Division - Oban Saints v Castlemilk - referee J Pearson, Glasgow.

Premier Division 1 - Duncanrig FP v Campbeltown Pupils 'A' - referee A Saverese, Glasgow

Premier Division 2 - Rutherglen v Dunoon, referee M Auld; Tarbert v Haldane United - referee J Scott, Oban

Division 3 - Campbeltown Pupils 'B' v Bothwell and Uddingston Albion - referee J Litster, Lochgilphed

West of Scotland Cup 2nd round - Bishopton v Lochgilphed Red Star.



## Haffey wins Bobby McCuish domino competition

GOLF

A DOMINO competition in memory of Bobby McCuish was held in the Woodside Hotel recently where 'Haffey' Campbell defeated Elio Lopez in the final.

£100 was raised from the event which will be donated to Oban Hospice.

Our picture shows Bobby's parents Peter and Marion McCuish who handed over the trophies to winner 'Haffey' and runner-up Elio.



Oban Lorne representatives with this season's sponsors. 07\_144sponsor01

## Missed chances prove very costly for Saints

West of Scotland Cup  
Second Round  
**Oban Saints 1**  
**Kilsyth 2**  
(after extra time)

KILSYTH Amateurs from the Central Scottish League were the visitors to Glencruitten for this West of Scotland Cup tie and the home side must be kicking themselves for not being in the draw for the third round as they missed an incredible amount of chances, six or seven of these being in the 'absolute sitter' category.

Kilsyth also have keeper Scott Stevenson to thank for making several top class saves to keep them in the cup.

The home side got off to a good start with Donald Campbell, Dene Cassells and Paul Carmichael having good chances.

The visitors got back into

the game and took the lead in the 35th minute when the ball broke off a couple of Saints defenders and fell kindly for the ever-alert front man Scott Cochrane who drilled a low shot past home keeper Graham Douglas.

The visitors were the better side as the half drew to a close, but Saints should have equalised right on the interval whistle when Allan MacKay missed a golden opportunity from three yards.

**Contrived**

The second half was almost all one way traffic but Saints contrived to miss chance after chance. Donald Campbell, Dene Cassells and Allan MacKay all passing up good opportunities.

Although under a lot of pressure Kilsyth looked dangerous on the break and Saints have keeper Graham Douglas to thank for a good

save with his legs to deny Mark Fitzsimmons.

Saints kept pressing and eventually the goal that their play deserved came. Willie Gemmill and Mattie Rippon combined to set up Keith Millar and the Saints skipper made no mistake thumping the ball past Scott Stevenson to make the score 1-1.

It looked only a matter of time before the Oban side would get another goal, but they kept scoring good opportunities.

The visiting keeper made a great save pushing a net bound shot past the post then both Donald Campbell and Mattie Rippon missed good chances.

With the game heading for extra time Kilsyth were reduced to 10 men when Kevin Hagan was given his second yellow card of the match by referee John Scott,

who had an excellent game, when he brought down Mattie Rippon as he was bearing down on goal.

There was no further scoring so the game went into extra time.

**Surprise**

The home side never upped the pace enough against the 10 men and allowed them too much time on the ball.

Midway through the second period the away side took the lead when their best player Marc Paterson brushed aside two tackles before firing goalwards. The shot seemed to take Graham Douglas by surprise as he stood motionless as the ball sailed past him into the net to give Kilsyth an unexpected 2-1 lead.

The home side had less than seven minutes to get back on level terms and take the game to a penalty shoot

out, and although they had the visitors pinned back they could not break through and it was a delighted Kilsyth contingent who celebrated at the final whistle.

Saints manager Iain Jackson was gutted after the match. He said: 'How we lost that one I'll never know. We created enough chances to win half a dozen games. I can't really fault the boys, they all worked hard and we took the lead when their best player Marc Paterson brushed aside two tackles before firing goalwards. The shot seemed to take Graham Douglas by surprise as he stood motionless as the ball sailed past him into the net to give Kilsyth an unexpected 2-1 lead.'

Saints are back on league duty this Saturday when they take on Castlemilk at Glencruitten. The match will kick off at 2pm with referee Jim Pearson in charge.



Saints skipper Keith Millar thumps home the equaliser against Kilsyth last Saturday. 07\_144saints01

## Youth football

FOOTBALL

RESULTS: Saints Under 13s 7, Clydebank BC 2. Netting for Saints were Stuart Munro (3), Jamie MacPherson (2) and Ross MacMillan (2).

Baljaffray 0, Under 14s 1. Saints scorer was Fraser MacFarlane.

The 15s and 16s had no league games, so they played a friendly against each other.

This weekend's fixtures: Saturday - Under 14s v North Kelvin United. Under 16s v Ardencaple. Sunday - Under 13s no game; Under 15s v Ardencaple.

## Oban Pool League

POOL

	P	W	L	Pts
Lancaster B	2	2	0	4
Claredon	2	2	0	4
Kelvin	2	2	0	4
Cellar Bar	2	1	1	2
Lochnell	2	1	1	2
Lancaster A	1	1	0	2
Lochavullin	2	1	1	2
Golf Club	2	0	2	0
Harbour	2	0	2	0
Markie Dans B	2	0	2	0
Markie Dans A	1	0	1	0

## Ladies football

FOOTBALL

OBAN Saints Ladies FC travelled to Crieff on Monday night to take on Motherwell in a Division Two West league game. The Oban girls played well but eventually lost 6-1. Saints goalscorer was Mandy MacDonald.

## Lochgilphed Six-a-sides

FOOTBALL

KEEN footballers are being reminded of a new six-a-side football league starting this month in Lochgilphed.

The community six-a-side league is scheduled to operate every Wednesday on the astroturf at the Mid Argyll Sports Centre.

The new league is free entry with no registration fee. Anyone over the age of sixteen can enter the league with their own team.

Teams can contact Scotland Leagues on 02476 796538 or register at www.scotlandleagues.com

## Tin Farm 5k

ATHLETICS

NEXT Sunday (November 7) will see the fourth running of the Tin Farm 5k.

The five-mile race will be run primarily off road on Ormsary Estate and starts at the estate office at noon.

For information contact Kirsty Young on 01880 770330 or Dinah Bosomworth on 01880 770279.

## the weather

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**Thursday**  
Light rain

Winds moderate south westerly  
Temperatures 9°C to 11°C

**Friday**

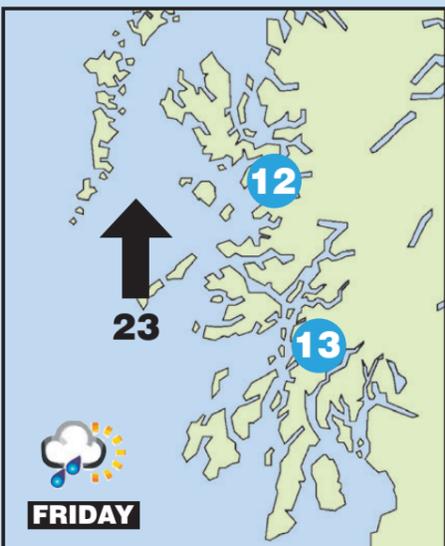
Heavy rain showers  
Winds moderate southerly  
Temperatures 9°C to 13°C.

**Weekend Outlook**

Sunny periods and scattered showers  
Winds moderate west, south westerly.  
Temperatures 8°C to 11°C.

**Ferry Crossings/Sea States**

Oban to Barra/South Uist - Moderate  
Oban to Coll/Tiree - As above  
Kennacraig to Islay - As above



## Tides

Sponsored by  
**NANCY BLACK** Ships' Chandler

Tide tables for Oban during the week from  
**Thursday, October 28, 2010**  
are listed below with differences  
for major ports listed beneath.  
All times are GMT (add one hour BST)

Date	am	pm
Thur 02.22	1.3 08.10 3.6 14.14 1.6 20.42 3.3	
Fri 03.11	1.4 09.00 3.4 15.48 1.8 21.41 3.1	
Sat 04.13	1.6 10.07 3.3 17.19 1.9 23.08 2.9	
Sun 05.30	1.6 11.48 3.2 18.51 1.8 *** **	
Mon 01.34	3.0 06.48 1.5 13.44 3.4 20.10 1.6	
Tues 02.37	3.2 08.01 1.3 14.43 3.6 21.08 1.3	
Wed 03.24	3.5 09.03 1.1 15.30 3.9 21.56 1.1	

Tidal Constants: (Add or deduct from High Water at Oban)

Ardershaig	-5.35	Lochboisdale	+0.30
Campbeltown	-5.30	Mallaig	+0.25
Crinan	-0.47	Portree	+0.55
Islay Port Ellen	2.00	Tobermory	+0.16
		Dover	+5.30



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